

JPRS-UPS-87-028

15 APRIL 1987

USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS



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PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

MISDEEDS OF FORMER KUNAYEV AIDE CATALOGUED

PM051735 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Why D. Bekezhanov Was Expelled From the Party"]

[Text] D. Bekezhanov, during his long service as assistant to the former first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, took advantage of his position and committed various abuses, intervened unjustifiably in the selection and placement of cadres, and tried to secure the promotion of his relatives and close friends to leading posts. Thus, after repeatedly pressuring the leaders of Alma-Ata's Internal Affairs Directorate and the MVD, Bekezhanov's brother-in-law, S.A. Suleymenov, was appointed deputy chief, and then first deputy chief of Alma-Ata's Internal Affairs Directorate, and he received rapid promotion in rank. Under Bekezhanov's influence reports of Suleymenov's amoral behavior were suppressed.

In 1981 M.I. Akuyev, deputy commander of a special section of the State Motor Vehicle Inspectorate Battalion, committed a serious crime for which he was expelled from CPSU membership, and had criminal proceedings instituted against him. However, with the help of Bekezhanov, Akuyev not only avoided criminal responsibility but was reinstated into the ranks of the party, and was promoted and appointed battalion chief. Under the protection of Bekezhanov, Akuyev in 1985 illegally obtained and repaired a car at the Kazakh SSR Academy of Sciences, used a subordinate to conceal the fact of a car accident, and committed other abuses. As a result of Bekezhanov's intervention, the Kazakh SSR MVD's order to discharge Akuyev from duty was not carried out this time either. He is now under arrest for the aforementioned crimes.

In June 1986, affording protection to A. Bakanov, former first secretary of Dzhezkazgan Oblast's Shetskiy party raykom, who had been expelled from the CPSU ranks, Bekezhanov so manipulated the situation that Bakanov was reinstated to party membership without justification and in circumvention of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Party Control Commission. This decision now has been revoked.

On 12 February 1986 the primary party organization of the Kazakhtelefilm Studio expelled K. Akhmetov, former studio director, from the CPSU ranks for

mercenary abuses. Bekezhanov twice helped his wife Akhmetova, the republic's deputy health minister, to be received by the first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee to discuss her husband's work and party status, telephoned the Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department and expressed his dissatisfaction that the section, allegedly, "had it in for" Akhmetov without justification, and he approached the republican State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and demanded that they stop their "victimization" of Akhmetov. In June 1986, through a senior official of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, Bekezhanov passed on the instruction to A.I. Rozhkov, first secretary of the Alma-Ata Kalinin Party Raykom, not to permit Akhmetov's expulsion from CPSU membership at the Raykom Buro session.

Now the Prosecutor's Office is conducting an investigation into Akhmetov, and he has been expelled from the ranks of the CPSU by a decision of the Alma-Ata Party Gorkom Buro.

After being released from duty as first secretary of the Alma-Ata Oblast Talgarskiy Party Raykom for serious shortcomings in his work, A.V. Terzeman was posted as chief of the oblast administration of the Gostrudsbekass. In January 1986 a proposal was made to the party obkom and oblispolkom that he be released from this duty, but Terzeman turned to Bekezhanov for help and Bekezhanov blocked the adoption of this decision. Terzeman was expelled from CPSU membership and released from his managerial duties only in 1987.

Bekezhanov intervened in the investigation of criminal cases, put pressure on the Kazakh SSR Prosecutor's Office in an attempt to get criminal proceedings stopped against Smykov, former chairman of the Alma-Ata Kolkhoz in the Alma-Ata Oblast Talgarskiy Rayon, who had committed self-seeking abuses of his official position, and against Kovinko, general director of the Alma-Ata Poultry Meat Production Association, accused of embezzlement, falsification of official documents, and over-reporting. Smykov now has been convicted, and the case against Kovinko is being investigated in court.

By his illegal actions Bekezhanov promoted the principle: "I condemn or I reprieve as I like." Many senior officials feared this man's reprisals and often committed deviations from the norms of party ethics when fulfilling his demands. He used antiparty approaches and tried to ensure that certain people would give compromising evidence and made false statements against workers he found displeasing.

With the active assistance of Bekezhanov, Yesimzhanov, a friend from his home town, who had been convicted in the past of seducing his 9-year-old daughter, obtained, without justification, a better-grade four-room apartment through the Central Committee Administration of Affairs, and through S. Dzhinbayev, former chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, disposed of a GAZ-24 light truck out-of-turn.

Several times Bekezhanov telephoned M.S. Mendybayev, first secretary of the Alma-Ata Party Obkom, and asked that D. Nurov, director of the 60-Letiye Oktyabrya Sovkhoz in Dzambul Rayon, not be expelled from CPSU membership. He

also mentioned these questions in personal conversations, saying that Nurov was a good friend of his.

Along with other leading officials, Bekezhanov obtained imported furniture from a Yugoslav exhibition at a discount of more than R1,000 in violation of trading rules and instead of acquiring it through a store. Criminal proceedings were instituted regarding this embezzlement of state property.

Bekezhanov, abusing his official position, obtained the illegal allocation of two apartments for his close relatives. So M. Bekezhanova, his elder sister, who lived in the Dzansugurovo settlement of Taldy-Kurgan Oblast's Aksuskiy Rayon, received a better-grade three-room flat in the center of Alma-Ata without a residence permit. The allocation order for this apartment was entered with the name of Bekezhanov's son, who was permanently residing with his parents. In September 1984 Bekezhanov obtained the allocation of a second three-room apartment in the Kazakhfilm microrayon for this same son through A.G. Statenin, administrator of affairs at the Central Committee.

The republic's public prosecutor brought an action for the eviction of these people from their illegally obtained accommodations.

This is a far from complete list of those abuses which Bekezhanov, senior official of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee apparatus, has committed.

The primary party organization of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee apparatus, on the basis of investigative materials submitted by the Central Committee party Control Commission, expelled Bekezhanov from CPSU membership on 30 January 1987 for the abuse of his official position which had taken the form of favoritism, the shielding of officials who had discredited themselves against their just desserts, assisting his close friends, relatives and acquaintances in the illegal acquisition of apartments, and duplicity. On 10 February 1987 the Alma-Ata Kalininskiy Party Raykom Buro confirmed this primary party organization decision.

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CSO: 1830/344

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

LISSR CC RESOLVES TO IMPROVE STATUS OF ENGINEERS

Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 23 Jan 87 pp 1, 3

[Article: "At the Lithuanian CP Central Committee"; first paragraph is source introduction]

[Text] The Lithuanian CP Central Committee has adopted the decree "The Work of the Party Committees With Engineer Cadres in Industry and Efforts to Increase Their Role in Accelerating Scientific-Technical Progress in the Light of the Requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress."

The decree states that the republic's industry has at its disposal skilled engineer cadres whose number, during the past five years, has increased by 40 percent and constitutes 28,000 persons. The party committees and the primary party organizations, guided by the principles enunciated at the 27th CPSU Congress and the June 1986 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, are carrying out certain practical measures to mobilize the engineers' creative forces to resolve the tasks of accelerating scientific-technical progress. Comprehensive programs have been developed for intensifying industrial production and for reducing the materials-intensity and improving the quality of output in the 12th Five-Year Plan. Councils to promote scientific-technical progress have been formed under gorkoms and individual raykoms. Effective forms of integrating science and production are being constantly sought and introduced. Interdepartmental scientific-production complexes and associations are operating successfully. All this has been exerting a positive influence upon strengthening the role of the intensive factors in developing industrial production.

The party committees have begun engaging more concretely in ideological-political education for engineers, in improving the organization of their labor, and providing incentives for it. These tasks are being successfully resolved at the Sigma Lithuanian Production Association, the Kapsukas Production Association of Food Vending Machines imeni 50-letiya SSSR, the Ekranas Plant in Panevezhis, and a number of other enterprises. The House of Engineers in Snyaulay has become a center for raising the level of on-the-job proficiency, for propagandizing scientific-technical achievements, and organizing the technical recreation of the technical intellectuals in the city.

At the same time it is noted in the decree that the party's gorkoms and raykoms, the economic agencies, the primary party, trade-union, and Komsomol organizations have not been taking effective steps to increase the prestige of

engineering labor or to intensify its role in accelerating scientific-technical progress. These questions are poorly reflected in the work plans for the party committees, oral reports concerning them are rarely given by the economic managers. At many enterprises, the engineer cadres are insufficiently involved in the resolution of the vitally important problems of the technical improvement of production, and a considerable amount of their time is spent in carrying out secondary functions that do not require engineering proficiency. An atmosphere of high exactingness and an intolerant attitude toward shortcomings has not been created everywhere, and at certain enterprises the demands made on the engineer cadres for the job assigned to them have been reduced.

The brigade forms of organizing the engineers' labor have not become sufficiently widespread, and the opportunities provided by temporary creative collectives are being underestimated. Little work is being done to raise the level of technical support of the engineers' labor, or to introduce computer technology or automated systems for designing and for administering the technological processes.

Steps are being taken slowly to improve the payment of the labor performed by the engineers, as stipulated by the appropriate decrees of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, and AUCCTU. At the Kaunas Machine-Tool Building Production Association imeni F. Dzerzhinskiy, the Lyaliya Garment Production Association in Vilnius, the Alitus Cotton-Fabrics Combine imeni 60-letiya Kompartii Litvy, and a number of other enterprises, when increases to the salary rates are being established, consideration is not always taken of the proficiency level or the contribution made by each person in increasing the effectiveness of production. The size of the increases is frequently insignificant and, for all practical purposes, does not play any incentive role in increasing the creative results produced by the engineers. The LiSSR State Committee for Labor does not demonstrate the proper exacting attitude toward the economic managers for eliminating those shortcomings.

The engineer training system in the institutions of higher education does not correspond completely to the tendencies and prospects of the development of the branches of industry, or to the new trends in science and technology. The target training of engineer cadres has not been broadly extended. Difficulties exist in providing the Vilnius enterprises with graduates of the Kaunas Polytechnical Institute imeni Antanas Sniechkus in the specialties of the technology of machine-building or radio machinery design. Efforts to raise the engineers' proficiency level are spasmodic in nature. During the past five-year period only every third engineer has been retrained in the corresponding courses. Little use is being made of the scientific potential of the institutions of higher education or the academy and branch institutes for these purposes.

At enterprises in the electrical-engineering and electronic industries, and in a number of other branches, the necessary concern is not being shown for permanently assigning young engineers in production and educating them. The role of probationary work in this regard has been reduced. The Komsomol organizations and the young specialist councils engage insufficiently in

questions of increasing the creative and social-political participation rate of young engineers, and of creating the necessary working and everyday living conditions for them.

Improvement is needed in the system of informational support for the engineering services at enterprises and organizations. A comparatively small number of engineers engage in the study of the latest achievements of science and technology. The Lithuanian Scientific-Research Institute of Scientific-Technical Information and Technical-Economic Research, and the ministries and departments, do not guarantee the high level and effectiveness of work pertaining to patent information. Informational services for enterprises and organizations on the basis of an automated scientific-technical information system have been expanding slowly.

In increasing the rate of creative participation by engineer-cadres, restructuring their way of thinking, and deepening their knowledge, incomplete use is being made of the system for economic education of workers. In many schools and at seminars, the economic problems of scientific-technical progress are considered in complete isolation from the specific tasks of the labor collectives and the discussion is of an informational, instructional type.

The LRSPP [Lithuanian Republic Council of Trade Unions], the committees of the branch trade unions, and the primary party, trade-union, and Komsomol organizations are still insufficiently engaged in improving the socialist competition among engineers, and in locating and disseminating advanced experience. The personal and collective creative plans are frequently of a formal nature. The competitors' efforts are poorly concentrated on locating and making the most complete use of reserves for the intensification of production. There are no precise criteria for evaluating their labor.

The republic NTO [scientific-technical society] and VOIR [All-Union Society of Inventors and Efficiency Experts] councils have not been providing the proper guidance of their primary organizations and have been playing an insufficient organizational role in developing the creative initiative and participation rate of engineers. Public reviews and competitions to resolve the most important production problems are rarely held, and their scope and effectiveness have been low. Little attention is devoted to propagandizing the achievements of science and technology. On the average, only every fourth engineer participates in the work of innovation or efficiency improvement. Little use is made of the right of public control over the most rapid introduction into production of innovators' proposals and recommendations.

The shortcomings which have been mentioned have had a detrimental effect upon resolving the tasks of accelerating scientific-technical progress, intensifying industrial production, and improving the quality of output.

The Lithuanian CP Central Committee has required the Lithuanian CP gorkoms and raykoms, ministries and departments, and the party, trade-union, and Komsomol organizations to carry out a fundamental restructuring of organizational and mass-political work with engineer cadres in industry, considering that to be one of the decisive factors in accelerating scientific-technical progress.

Specific measures to increase labor effectiveness and the creative initiative of engineers are to be planned and carried out, methods and forms of working them are to be improved, and regular efforts are to be carried out to generalize and disseminate the desirable experience that has been accumulated in this matter.

Efforts of engineer-workers are to be concentrated on the practical resolution of tasks assigned by the 27th CPSU Congress and the June 1986 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee in the area of accelerating scientific-technical progress. Their work is to be persistently channeled into bringing about a major turning point in the intensification of production and into assuring the unconditional fulfillment of the plans and socialist pledges in the 12th Five-Year Plan.

The party's gorkoms and raykoms, economic managers, and party and trade-union organizations at associations, enterprises, and scientific-research and planning-and-designing organizations are to improve the assignment and education the engineer-cadres.

All steps are to be taken to increase the engineers' authority, to educate them in a spirit of high ideological conviction, intolerance of any manifestations of conservatism or routine, and the need to work constantly to supplement their theoretical knowledge and practical experience. Economic training is to be combined with practical resolution of tasks of intensifying production.

The LiSSR State Committee for Labor, the ministries and departments, the associations and enterprises, and the scientific and construction-planning organizations, starting in 1987, are to carry out the certification and improvement of engineers' work stations in conformity with the standard statute. The correct and consistent introduction of the new system of payment for labor performed by engineer-workers is to be assured, as stipulated by the appropriate decrees of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, and AUCCTU. The increase in salary rates and the establishment of differentials to be added to them are to be coordinated more closely with the final results and personal contribution made by each individual in accelerating scientific-technical progress. Wider use is to be made of collective forms of organizing and paying labor.

The party's Vilnius, Kaunas, Snyaulyay, Klaypeda, and Kapsukas gorkoms, the managers and primary party organizations of collectives at scientific-production associations and scientific-research and planning-and-designing agencies are obliged to carry out restructuring in the work of scientists, construction planners, designers, and technologists to raise the technical level and effectiveness of developments and to reduce the amounts of time needed to create and introduce into production progressive technology and technological schemes and new types of output that correspond to the best domestic and foreign models.

The council for promoting scientific-technical progress, which is under the Lithuanian CP Central Committee, has been given the responsibility, within the

first quarter of 1987, of considering the question of the use of scientific-technical developments and inventions in industry and of making necessary recommendations.

The Central Committee of the Lithuanian Komsomol, the Komsomol gorkoms and raykoms, primary party organizations, and economic managers must devote more attention to education and the correct use of young engineers and their permanent assignment to labor collectives, and must create all the necessary conditions for their fruitful work and their creative growth. In the resolution of these questions, the role and participation rate of young specialist councils are to be increased.

All kinds of assistance are to be rendered to the Komsomol organizations in extending the mass movement of young engineers within the confines of the single public-governmental system of young people's scientific-technical creativity which is to be created.

Gosplan, the LiSSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education, rectors, and party committees of technical institutions of higher education are given the responsibility of carrying out a series of measures that guarantee the fundamental improvement of the training of engineer cadres in conformity with the requirements of the Basic Directions for Restructuring Higher and Secondary Special Education in the Country. There is to be an expansion of the practice of targeted training of engineers on the basis of contracts with associations and enterprises, and better use is to be made of scientific production-training associations and departments of higher educational institutions at enterprises, for these purposes. There will be a re-examination of the structure of specialist training in order to satisfy more completely industry's needs for engineers, especially in the priority sectors of scientific-technical progress.

Gosplan, jointly with Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education, the party's Vilnius gorkom, and the city's ispolkom, has been given the responsibility of preparing recommendations concerning the desirability of opening up, in the 1987-1988 school year, a branch of the Kaunas Polytechnical Institute imeni Antanas Sniechkus in the city of Vilnius and of submitting those recommendations to the LiSSR Council of Ministers for consideration.

Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education and the interdepartmental council for raising the proficiency level of administrative workers and specialists, jointly with Gosplan, the LiSSR State Committee for Labor, and the Academy of Sciences, are to develop, in the first half of 1987, a program for retraining and refresher training of engineer-cadres for the period until 1990, stipulating at such time the more profound specialization and differentiated instruction and the better use of the scientific potential, the institutions of higher education, and the academy and branch institutes.

The ministries and departments, the Lithuanian Scientific-Research Institute of Information and Technical-Economic Research, economic managers, and party organizations are to take steps to raise the level of scientific-technical information at enterprises and in scientific-research and planning-and-designing organizations. The information services are to be reinforced with

enterprising and educated specialists and those specialists are to be given greater responsibility for the quality of the analytical materials.

There is to be a fundamental improvement in patent-information support for projects involving the creation and introduction of new technology and technological schemes, an expansion of services provided to enterprises and organizations on the basis of an automated system of scientific-technical information, and an improvement of the organizational-methodological work of selecting and employing technical innovations.

The Vilnius, Kaunas, Panevezhis, Alitus, and Kapsukas gorkoms and city ispolkoms, jointly with LitNIINTI [Lithuanian Scientific Research Institute on the Theory, History, and Prospective Problems of Soviet Architecture], have been given the responsibility of resolving the question of creating urban homes for engineers in 1987.

The LKSPS, the committees of the branch trade unions, the republic-level NTO and VOIR councils, economic managers, and party, trade-union, and Komsomol organizations are obliged to guarantee the further improvement of socialist competition among engineers and to intensify its focus on the acceleration of scientific-technical progress. The importance of collective and personal creative plans as an important means of developing the engineers' labor initiative is to be increased.

The work of the primary organizations of the NTO and VOIR is to be aimed at intensifying public control over the most rapid introduction of scientific-technical innovations into production. All steps are to be taken to support and disseminate the experience of advanced workers and to promote the creation of temporary creative collectives.

Gosplan and the republic councils of NTO and VOIR, jointly with the board of directors of VDNKh LiSSR [Exhibition of the Achievements of the LiSSR National Economy], have been given the responsibility of conducting annual reviews of the best engineer developments dealing with new technology and progressive technological schemes.

The names of the winners in these reviews are to be submitted for the award of the honorary titles of "Honored LiSSR Engineer," "Honored LiSSR Designer," and "Honored LiSSR Technologist," as well as for the award of Honorary Certificates of the Presidium of LiSSR Supreme Soviet.

The LiSSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the editorial offices of newspapers and magazines have been given the responsibility of illuminating on a broad scale the process of restructuring the work with engineer-cadres and the existing shortcomings in this matter and of revealing more completely questions of the prestige of engineer labor, the rate of creative participation by engineers and questions of increasing the rate of the engineers' creative participation in accelerating scientific-technical progress.

5075

CSO: 1800/310

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

TURKMEN PARTY LEADER ON NEW WAY OF WORKING

LD201055 Moscow TASS in English 1002 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Ashkhabad 20 February TASS--The results of 1986, the first year of working in a new way, demonstrate that economic growth in Turkmenia, which was justly criticized at the last party congress, is picking up again, said Saparmurad Niyazov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of this Soviet constituent republic in Central Asia.

"Many economic indices exceeded those in previous years," he told TASS.

"Worker productivity in industry rose more than 4 percent, which compares favorably with the planned growth of 2 percent. Industrial output increased almost 6 percent, as against 3.5 percent in the plan," Niyazov said.

"Plans for building housing and social-service and cultural institutions were met for the first time in many years," he added.

The results of working in the new way, Niyazov said, demonstrated that the people had accepted the idea of reorganization.

The social and political climate was improving and democratization progressing in society, he added.

The staff of the Ashkhabad cotton cloth mill, for example, had elected their director for the first time and elections of shop chiefs and job foremen had taken place at some other factories also, Niyazov said.

"The new forms of economic management, including self-supporting schemes and the system of family and team contracts, have been paying well in agricultural and associated industries," he said.

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CSO: 1812/109

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

UZBEK CP CC PRAISES RAYKOM BRIGADE ELECTION EXAMPLE

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 30 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee--The Experience of the Naryn Party Raykom of the Namangan Oblast on Conducting Elections of Brigade Leaders of Kolkhoz Field Brigades"]

[Text] The Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee has approved the experience of the Naryn Party Raykom/[rayon committee] of the Namangan Oblast on conducting elections of kolkhoz field brigade leaders.

It was noted that the Naryn Party Raykom, following the advice of M. S. Gorbachev that everyone must learn to work under conditions of broadening democracy, accepted the suggestion of the working collectives to conduct field brigade leader elections everywhere on broad democratic principles, abandoning the existing practice of appointing these people. To conduct elections at each farm, candidates were nominated for the brigade leader posts. In addition to the previous brigade leaders, other workers of the village were suggested from among the best machine operators, experienced irrigation workers, and agricultural specialists. News about all the candidates was announced beforehand on the radio and in the local press. Before the start of the elections, each brigade leader candidate appeared before the collective and shared his views on improving the work of the brigade.

The kolkhoz workers showed great interest in this measure and actively participated in the brigade leader elections that were conducted. The elections were carried out by secret ballot. Brigade members were given the right to write in additional candidates on the ballot. Special booths were equipped for voting where the voters could make any changes to the ballots. The votes were counted in the presence of the collective.

For the rayon as a whole, 105 of the 131 working brigade leaders were re-elected and 6 of the 20 candidates additionally proposed by the kolkhoz workers themselves were elected. There were 87 CPSU members, 12 women, 9 specialists with higher education and 20 with a secondary education among those who won the confidence of the voters.

The new, non-traditional approach by the Naryn Party Raykom to the selection of leadership personnel for the local production collectives testifies to the desire of the party committees locally to develop democratic principles in personnel work and to lean more on the opinion of people. The results of the

brigade leader elections showed that the rayon's workers correctly grasped the trust placed in them and cast their votes for the most deserving workers who met their concept of what a modern leader should be.

Mukhtarkhodzha Madaminov was the leader of brigade #7 of the Kommunizm Kolkhoz. This year the collective fulfilled the five-day cotton collecting plan and gathered 90 percent of the harvest by machine. The production cost of a quintal of cotton was 32 rubles with a yield of 39 quintals. Before the beginning of the elections, M. Madaminov asked the brigade members to relieve him of his duties for health reasons and he recommended two of his pupils as replacements. When the election results showed that he had been re-elected brigade leader, he announced that the collective's opinion was dear to him and he would try to find within himself the strength for further fruitful work.

Karimberdi Egamberdiyev had worked as brigade leader at the October Kolkhoz for a long period of time. It was the opinion of the kolkhoz workers that he was a demanding but fair leader who showed concern for people. However, in 1977 the board decided to relieve him of his post, supposedly for health reasons. K. Eganberdiyev was included among the candidates in the new elections and the brigade #11 collective unanimously elected him brigade leader.

Those workers who demonstrated unscrupulousness, bootlicking, rudeness toward subordinates, and the inability to make independent and bold decisions, who put personal interests above the interests of the collective, and who were not concerned about people, did not find support among the kolkhoz workers. Thus, the brigade leader of the kolkhoz imeni Karl Marx, Yakubzhon Kuchkarov, under the guise of being an exacting leader, behaved rudely toward the kolkhoz workers, at times debased their human dignity, and did not treat everyone equally. He did not get elected.

At the kolkhoz imeni the 50th Anniversary of the USSR, Khusanboy Mirzayev, at the insistence of the leadership, was included on the list of candidates for nomination. When he was deputy chairman of the kolkhoz, he allowed breaches of discipline and abused his official position, for which he was relieved of his position and punished by the party. All 30 brigade members expressed no confidence in him.

The elections in the Naryn Rayon demonstrated the great interest of the ordinary workers in the concrete reorganization of the state of affairs which had arisen. The democratization of the process has eliminated the possibility of appointing brigade leaders according to principles of family ties, personal devotion, and servility. The deep-rooted opinion about the shortage in the village of mid-level personnel has also turned out to be groundless.

It was recommended to the party obkoms/[oblast committees] and raykoms that they broadly support and disseminate the Naryn Rayon experience, energetically investigate new effective work forms and methods and popularize them, support in every way possible the creative people with initiative who are sincerely supporting reorganization, and make wide use in personnel work of democratic principles in the selection and promotion of all categories of workers, being guided here by the opinion of party organizations and labor collectives.

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

USMANKHODZHAYEV MEETS WITH ELECTORATE

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 30 Dec 86 p 1

[UzTAG report: "A Meeting with Voters"]

[Text] On 29 December, the voters of Tashkent-Oktyabrskiy electoral district #117 met with deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and First Secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee I. B. Usmankhodzhayev.

The First Secretary of the Tashkent party gorkom [city committee], B. F. Satin, opened the meeting.

I. B. Usmankhodzhayev talked about the multi-faceted work going on in the republic in carrying out the historic decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and in eliminating shortcomings which CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M. S. Gorbachev pointed out during a visit to Tashkent. The first results of the reorganization which has been spreading into all spheres of Uzbekistan's economic and social life were analyzed. It was noted that the work being done by the soviets of people's deputies under party leadership on intensifying production and improving the forms and methods of managing the national economy, has permitted attaining some positive improvements in the operation of industry and agriculture by the end of the first year of the 12th Five-Year Plan. However, we should not relax because of what has been achieved. There is a lot of work ahead. We must keep up with the demands of the times. Each labor collective must create conditions to develop worker initiative and to struggle persistently against cases of bureaucratism and red tape in solving the key questions--a strict observance of technical and labor discipline, a sharp increase in production quality, and an improvement in the living and working conditions of the people.

Everything positive and valuable that has been achieved must be adopted and considered in subsequent work. In continuing the work of reorganization which has begun, it is necessary to accelerate the work tempo at all sectors and to go out to the boundaries projected by the five-year plan, to strengthen and increase the extent of organization and responsibility for the work which has been entrusted to us, and to struggle decisively against everything that is negative.

I. B. Usmankhodzhayev reported to the voters on the progress in carrying out their orders.

A worker from the small leather and sporting goods production association M. Muydinova, the party organization secretary of the Russian State Youth Theater L. V. Fedorova, a student from the Tashkent Polytechnical Institute T. Kovalenko, a finisher from the furniture production association Tashkent S. Mirkasymova, an excavator machinist from the trust Stroymekhanizatsiya V. G. Stovba, and other speakers at the meeting talked about the unanimous approval by the workers of the republic's capital for the peaceloving course of the CPSU and the Soviet government aimed at further strengthening the might of the country of the Soviets and increasing the well-being of the Soviet people. In the name of their collectives, they expressed the firm belief that in answer to the paternal concern of the party for the good of the people, the workers of Tashkent will join even more actively in the struggle to carry out the program of accelerating the social and economic development of the country and will greet the 70th anniversary of Great October with new achievements.

In conclusion, comrade I. B. Usmankhodzhayev answered voters' questions.

The First Secretary of the Tashkent Obkom [oblast committee] of the Uzbekistan Communist Party, T. A. Alimov, participated in this meeting.

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CSO: 1830/306

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

USMANKHODZHAYEV TRADE UNION SPEECH CITES ECONOMIC TASKS

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 25 Jan 87 pp 1, 3

[Article: "Speech by I. B. Usmankhodzhayev at 13th Congress of Uzbek Trade Unions"]

[Text] Comrades! The 13th Congress of the Uzbekistan Trade Unions has become a major event in the life of our republic. Its significance is determined by the role which the trade unions are playing in the resolution of large-scale and complex problems in the acceleration of socioeconomic development.

The Congress has become a serious examination of the trade unions' political and social maturity. It has become an examination of the way in which the trade unions have been mobilizing the republic's workers to carry out the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the assignments of the 12th Five-Year Plan. And it is a good thing that the annual report and the statements of delegates take a self-critical, detailed, and constructive view of the progress being made in the restructuring of trade union operations and an examination of what must be done in order to raise the operations of the trade union organizations to a qualitatively new level and to bring about a decisive activation of the human factor.

In the last analysis, the successful outcome of these efforts is decided by people. "Social policy and the interests of the workers," emphasized General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M. S. Gorbachev, "must always be the primary concern of the trade unions."

Lenin's definition of the trade unions as a school of management, a school of economic operations, and a school of communism, takes on special significance in today's world. The party has been giving primary attention to raising their role in the resolution of political, economic, and social-cultural problems. The Uzbek CP Central Committee is striving to see that the work of the trade unions corresponds to the spirit of the times, that its style and method of operation are constantly improved, that their efforts are more persistent and purposeful, and that stimulate the creative energy of the masses.

With the help of the trade unions and other public organizations, the Uzbekistan CP has been heightening the initiative and responsibility of

personnel for the tasks assigned to them, and has been strengthening discipline and order, and is setting new procedures for the way things are done. The workers have given their full support to the uncompromising struggle against negative phenomena and against all that is old, stagnant, and obsolete. The most important sectors of party, economic, and cultural structuring are now being directed by ideologically convinced, competent, and well trained persons.

The workers of all nations and nationalities are actively participating in government and public life, and by their inspired labor are increasing the economic and defensive strength of our socialist Fatherland. The friendship and brotherhood among the peoples are strengthening.

Several advances have been made in the national economy as a result of the work that has been completed. In the first year of the 12th Five-Year Plan the republic's national income grew by 3.4 percent. Industrial goods production was six percent higher than in the previous year. The sales of those goods was 255 million rubles greater than the planned level.

The state assignments for the procurement of the basic livestock products were overfulfilled. The social benefits of the economy have increased. There has been more construction of housing, schools, children's and therapeutic institutions. More attention has been given to problems of transportation, communication, trade, domestic services, health, education, culture, and the arts.

However, these results could have been much better, if the economic managers and trade union organizations had paid more attention to the essential needs of the people, and had been more concerned about efforts to increase production efficiency. Restructuring has not yet reached core processes in some sectors, and is substituted by appeals and pretentious directives. Production volume decreased by 414 million rubles at 234 enterprises, over 320 enterprises failed to fulfill their contractual obligations, and product output was short by 350 million rubles. Scientific and technical achievements are being incorporated slowly. Material resources are being lost and wasted.

Capital investments for construction are not concentrated and assimilated in a timely fashion. The annual plan for putting fixed capital into operation was only 77 percent completed.

The situation in the agro-industrial complex is particularly disturbing. We failed to achieve an effective utilization of the powerful production-economic potential of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and did not reach the assigned pace of production. We did not fulfill the procurement plans for crude cotton, grain, melons, fresh fruits, and grapes.

The public's demands for goods and services were not fully satisfied. Uzbekistan is thirteenth among the country's republics in per capita commodity turnover, and in last place in everyday services.

The trade unions have seriously fallen short of their goals with regard to all of these shortcomings and oversights. We know that all the collectives

participated in socialist competition, but words were not matched by deeds in many places. We must, comrades, draw fundamental conclusions from the lessons of our economy and concentrate our attention on our shortcomings and unresolved problems, and raise the effectiveness of socialist competition.

Today all of the labor collectives have adopted their socialist pledges for the 12th Five-Year Plan and 1987, an anniversary year of Soviet rule. Lofty frontiers have been planned. The principal goals include the absolute fulfillment of contractual pledges, and a 100-percent delivery level of all commodity orders in the full complement of requested goods at the stipulated times. Special attention is being given to scientific-technical progress, improved product quality, and prudent utilization of resources. In the present Five-Year Plan period there must a 1.3-fold acceleration of the comprehensive mechanization and automation of production and replacement of machine tool stock. The replacement rate of obsolete equipment will have to be doubled. Plans are being made for a significant decrease in manual labor operations and an increase by 1.7 times of goods meriting the State Badge of Quality, and to bring the level of machine-harvested crude cotton up to 60 percent of the total procurement volume.

In the social sphere it has been decided to complete the comprehensive program "Health" by 1990, and to increase the volume of public services by 1.7 -- 1.8 times.

All of this is the workers' concrete response to the party's and government's concern about the development of the republic's productive forces, and is an indication of the growing public activity of the workers, kolkhoz farmers, the national intelligentsia, and all trade union members.

However, a number of ministries, departments, enterprises, and installations are manifesting timidity, are playing it safe, and are trying to reduce their workload. Pledges to increase grain production were not adopted by the Bukhara, Kashka-Darya, Samarkand, and Surkhan-Darya oblasts. There have been attempts to lower pledge figures. The Andizhan, Syr-Darya, and Tashkent oblasts are planning to harvest less corn than was harvested last year. The initiative taken by the cities of Gorkiy and Tolyatti for marked increases in housing and social cultural facilities construction has not been given the support it deserves. That kind of approach cannot be tolerated. No one will allow us to cut back on the pace of our work.

The initiative undertaken by 20 thousand leading industrial workers of Uzbekistan to complete the Five-Year Plan in two years by the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution is deserving of respect and support. Every collective and every worker must strive for maximum work intensity in order to reach the frontier goals that have been set. The successful realization of the adopted pledges can only be accomplished by a higher degree of exactingness placed on personnel and by strict controls.

The verification of duty performance is the concern of each trade union worker and each primary organization. It is important in that regard to concentrate attention on the first priority tasks. One of those tasks is a sharp increase in productivity. Here we have a very large number of unresolved problems.

For example, whereas agricultural productivity in the USSR in the 11th Five-Year Plan was eight percent greater than in the 10th Five-Year Plan, productivity in Uzbekistan decreased by seven percent. Our present level of productivity in the agrarian sector is 57 percent of the national level which puts us in 14th place in the country. The situation in the industrial sector is no better.

That is why it is extremely important for enterprises to switch to a higher shift system. There are presently only 278 on such a system, out of the 1,108 enterprises of the republic. There has been practically no increase in the shift coefficient in the Tashkent and Samarkand oblasts, and in the Navoi Oblast and Karshi it has even decreased. In the meantime, the operations in the cities of Kokand and Chirchik have proven that the higher shift system makes it possible to use equipment at full capacity and increase productivity. However, that work experience is being poorly disseminated, and at times the essence of the new style of operation is distorted. During a recent inspection, workers on the night shift at the transportation shop and laboratory of the Prefabricated Reinforced Concrete Plant No 2 of the Ministry of Construction were sleeping.

The trade unions are confronted with considerable tasks in the matter of improving the shift system operations. First of all, we must make sure that the requirements of the Law on Labor Collectives are carried out, and that the workers themselves participate directly in the organization of production.

The problem of increasing the quality of goods being produced is a very acute one, comrades. This constitutes an integral part of the acceleration strategy. At the same time, the production of high quality goods fell short of the plan by 90 million rubles last year, or by more than six percent. Stores and warehouses are full of clothes and shoe wear that have been made carelessly in styles that have long since become outmoded.

The establishment of state acceptance centers at 33 enterprises revealed even more of our carelessness and blunders. It became obvious who perceived the requirements for restructuring in a dutiful party manner and who was working in the old-fashioned way. In the first 20 days of January only 15 -- 20 percent of the monthly plan for a number of items was turned over to the state receiving station by the Tashkent electrical equipment plant Andizhanelektrodvigatel. Why did this happen? What was forgotten here was that the main factors in quality guarantee are people and their attitude toward the execution of obligations, and the level of their skills. A general training program for workers has not been organized. The existing quality study groups are merely pro forma.

The task is to see that trade unions have a profound understanding of their role and responsibility in the struggle for higher final results. We must be more bold in dealing with laxity and extravagance, and we must make radical improvements in the organization of labor.

The trade unions must also be active in the resolution of such very important social-political problems as the recruitment of able-bodied persons for socially useful work. Expansion of subsidiary production and the non-

production sphere must be assisted. We must think about ways in which at-home work can be provided for tens of thousands of mothers with many children.

Last year over 30,000 envoys from Uzbekistan went out to national construction sites. It is the duty of trade unions to make every possible effort to assist in the inter-republic exchange of personnel and to strengthen the workers' internationalist conscience.

Business like efficiency is one the principal means of improving trade union effectiveness. Its essence lies in the organization of a precise work process and the improvement of working conditions. These problems are still being resolved very slowly. We have 27,000 persons who are working under conditions of excessive dust and exhaust gases. More than 21,000 persons work in places that have excess noise, and 39,000 persons work in places where the temperature is too high. Can the trade unions be possibly reconciled to situations at many enterprises where work areas do not conform to sanitary standards, where there are no elementary facilities and there is no order in the operation of dining halls and snack bars?

There are 372 women delegates in this hall. They represent the 600,000 women who are working in the national economy. And they have the right to ask trade union supervisors: Why is it that in industry alone there are 80 thousand women employed at jobs where the working conditions are severe and injurious? Cotton harvesting is done primarily by women, although the number of kindergartens and nurseries in the rural areas is only half the number in the cities and comprise only 27 percent of the total. More than half the farms have no routine sanitary facilities.

Here is a situation where the trade unions must apply a firm hand and take steps for a principled and uncompromising resolution of all problems connected with improving working and living conditions, particularly those of women.

The subject of work safety must be one of special concern, comrades. There have been dangerous accidents that have taken place within the jurisdiction of the Uzbek Civil Aviation Administration, the Central Asian Railroads, and in motor vehicle transportation.

The observance of technical safety must be strictly enforced and controlled. The trade unions must be a vigilant guardian of public health, and no complacency must be permitted.

Considerable rights have been granted to trade unions in regard to the protection of workers' rights and other legal interests of the workers. However, it must be regretfully said that the trade union aktiv does not have a good understanding of labor legislation, and often takes unprincipled attitudes in the examination of labor disputes. The Uzbek CP Central Committee received about 1,500 letters last year on these problems which was 140 more letters than in the previous year. O. Dauletnazarov, for example, a driver at the Nukus Motor Vehicle Transportation Enterprise No. 120, was illegally fired and was reinstated only after the intervention of the Central Committee. We know that earlier he appealed to trade union authorities at all levels on more than one occasion. It is obviously no accident that out of the

more than 400 action suits filed by workers that were reviewed by the courts in 1986, only 300 were settled. The necessary conclusions must be drawn from these cases, i.e., attention must be given to the dissemination of legal knowledge among the workers and to the training of the trade union aktiv.

The resolution of all problems requires a party, political approach and a persistence to achieve the goals that have been outlined. Let us take the woman problem, for example. In order to provide each family with an apartment or home by the year 2000, we must have ready 220 million square meters of housing within a period of three five-year plans, i.e., 2.5 times more than has been made available in the past 15 years. However, the trade unions have been indifferent to the fact that in the past year 33 ministries, departments, and ispolkoms of local Soviets failed to satisfy the housing construction plan. There has been a regular breakdown in the completion dates for schools, kindergartens, hospitals, clubs, and athletic facilities. Supplemental possibilities are being poorly utilized. Last year each worker gave only 50 minutes instead of four days on social sphere facilities last year in the Karakalpak ASSR and the Surkhan-Darya Oblast, and this method was not at all adopted in the Kashka-Darya Oblast. This year the kolkhozes plan to build a total of 35 thousand square meters of housing. This would be 40 square meters per kolkhoz.

The trade unions are called upon to intensify their control over the quality and progress of housing construction and provide for an orderly accounting and distribution of housing as well as mobilize the public to seek supplemental reserves.

An important task is to raise the educational potential of trade union organizations. Clubs and athletic facilities play an important role in providing for a healthy way of life and inculcating a high sense of spiritual needs. As you know, in 1985 the CPSU Central Committee adopted a detailed decree on this question. The progress of its implementation has been discussed twice at the party's Central Committee and at three regional conferences. Uzbekistan was criticized for the fact that most clubs and athletic facilities either remain empty or used by a very small number of people. Twenty-eight percent of the localities with a population of 500 or more do not have permanent cultural centers. Only 39 out of the rayon centers have standard cultural clubs. The per capita to club ratio in our republic is 4,200 to 1, whereas the national ratio is 2,000 to 1.

We have recently lost ground in many areas of sports. The level of physical culture, especially in the rural areas, is extremely low. There are four million trade union members who are not involved in physical culture.

The Uzbek trade union council should once more thoroughly examine questions related to the development of culture and sports and strive to make full use of existing facilities. They should provide for the organization of culture-athletic complexes and make physical culture a part of workers' everyday activities.

In short, comrades, we are talking here about greater initiative, about a creative attitude toward the operations of trade union organs at all levels,

and about an improvement in the style of trade union activity. The 18th Congress of the country's trade unions will begin in one month. And it is a good thing that the annual reports and elections should bring up frank and open discussions about the painful fact that formalism and excessive bureaucracy are far from being eliminated everywhere.

The apparatus of the Uzbek trade union council has also not been freed of those shortcomings. In 1986 it sent over six thousand documents to local destinations. Often trade union personnel strive to report on the fulfillment of any one particular decision not by the fulfillment of practical deeds, but by the adoption of a sequential decree.

I will give you two characteristic examples. It is no secret as to how much we have yet to do to develop a network of sanitarium-treatment centers. As yet we can only provide 26 sanitarium places per 1,000 workers. That is one of the lowest levels in the country. In 1980, at the initiative of the Uzbek trade union council, the republic's Council of Ministers adopted a decision to expand the construction of sanitarium-treatment centers in order to provide up to 35 places. However, the Uzbek trade unions and its secretary, Comrade O. K. Adamanov, could not assure the fulfillment of that plan and were reconciled to accept that failure.

The Uzbek trade unions are also not showing the necessary persistence in such an important matter as the development of collective horticulture and vegetable gardening. How else can we explain the fact that not a single joint association has as yet been organized in the Surkhan-Darya and Khoresm oblasts and in the Karakalpak ASSR. We know that the people responsible for this area are Secretary of the Uzbek trade union council T. Kh. Sabitov and other officials.

The 27th CPSU Congress concisely defined the direction that a restructured work style should take. All supervisors must spend less time in their offices, but rather go out to the primary organizations and collectives to check on the progress being made in the fulfillment of party decisions and to organize their implementation.

It is extremely important, comrades, that openness, criticism, and self-criticism be fully developed, and that people's advice and opinions are sought. Every person wishes and must know what is happening in the collective, city, and republic. It is only in an atmosphere of democracy that people can be instilled with a sense of responsibility and a will to take initiatives.

The opinions of labor collectives must also be considered in work with personnel. Recently there has been a decrease in the number of communists and women on trade union and shop committees. Only 50 percent of the obkom representatives and secretaries of the cultural worker trade unions are specialists. Many committees do not have future plans for working with personnel. The chairman of the Pakhtakorskiy Rayon consumers union by his own decision appointed a bookkeeper to be the chairman of the trade union

committee. The trade union committee chairman of the Mirzachulskiy Rayon consumer combine was appointed in a similar fashion. This is pure arbitrariness.

A primary task of the Uzbek trade union council and the trade union committees is to nominate new, energetic and reputable persons for trade union work. We have many such people. The electoral trade union aktiv is a good school for management and democracy. It is important that the school is conducted by worthy workers, kolkhoz farmers, specialists, cultural and science specialists, young people, women, and representatives from the entire fraternal family of peoples residing in the republic.

Comrades! We are nearing the end of the first month of the second year of the five-year plan. A particular feature of the year has been a practical orientation toward intensive methods of management. In the meantime, we had to start the year by shaking ourselves loose. It is obvious from the results of the first 20 days of January that many enterprises are not completing their assignments. The railroad and motor vehicle transportation sector are operating under considerable strain. There have been many blunders in the operations of the fuel-energy complex.

Our task is to intensify our efforts to fulfill the plans for January and for the year as a whole. In order to assure that the operations of all the sectors of the economy proceed in a persistent and smooth manner, the central effort of trade union operations must be in the labor collectives. The trade unions must be responsible for the working and living conditions of our people. They must make sure that initiative is the key to success, that plans and pledges are fulfilled in a harmonious fashion at all sectors of production, and that discipline, order, and good organization are strengthened in every possible way.

A good number of constructive remarks and suggestions were heard at the Congress. It is a very good thing people are taking a keen interest in the common cause. All of their desires must be considered and correlated. The new leadership of the Uzbek trade union council must support each sensible suggestion. The times require that all the trade union organizations operate in a purposeful, tenacious, congenial, and persistent manner.

The Uzbek CP Central Committee is confident that the trade unions will take even greater responsibility for the successful resolution of the industrial and social tasks and will intensify the process of restructuring to the utmost and will greet the 70th anniversary of the Great October in a worthy fashion.

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CSO: 1830/293

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

UZBEK PROCURATOR'S OFFICE DISCUSSES LABOR PROTECTION LAW

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 25 Jan 87 p 2

[UzTAG report: "Guarantee of Labor Rights"]

[Text] Problems of labor law observance in cases of worker and employee dismissals were discussed January 24 at a coordination conference at the office of the Uzbek SSR Procurator.

Participating in that conference were officials from the Uzbek CP Central Committee, the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers, the republic's procuracy and justice offices, the Supreme Court, and many ministries and departments.

It was noted at the conference that in connection with the further development of Soviet democracy, the trade union committees, enterprise supervisors and organizations concerned with assuring the labor rights of laborers and office employees have acquired a greater role. But there are still some cases in which the laws are distorted and where the settlement of unjustified problems are left to the courts and the procuracy.

In the last one and one-half years the Uzbek SSR Procuracy has conducted extensive inspections as to the precise execution of laws concerned with labor and the protection of workers' rights as well as the strengthening of labor discipline. During that period hundreds of persons who were wrongfully deprived of their rights were reinstated and settlement penalties totaling 139,000 rubles were awarded to them.

However, the conference pointed out that the restructuring which is now taking place in all spheres of the country's life is still progressing slowly in the republic's law protection offices and in a number of ministries and departments. All officials still do not have a high level of qualifications and there has been frequent manifestations of incompetency in the handling of some cases. There are still violations of the time limits set for the examination of cases and there are instances of red tape and errors which result in a loss of worker time and increased payments to persons for forced absences from work.

The conference noted that today's principal task is to eradicate errors in the operation of the law protection offices and to achieve a higher level of efficiency and action in the protection of the constitutional right to work and the strengthening of labor discipline.

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CSO: 1830/293

PARTY AND STATE AFFAIRS

UZBEK OBKOM PLENUMS NOTE SHORTCOMINGS IN IDEOLOGICAL WORK

Fergana Obkom

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 11 November 1986 carries on page 2 a 1,000-word article by own correspondent O. Hakimov entitled "In a Spirit of Criticism and Self-Criticism" in which he reports on a plenum held by the Fergana Obkom at which Obkom First Secretary H. Umarov and others spoke on ways to improve ideological work. They stressed the need to restructure work in all fields and to arouse a feeling of answerability to today's demands in the psyches, minds, and spirits of people. A number of oblast party committees have not organized ideological work satisfactorily nor carried this work to labor collectives.

The Uzbek CP Central Committee Buro pointed out that ideological cadres in the oblast continue to work with outdated methods. A number of rayon party committees have not taken steps to increase the role of leaders in ideological education work. Too many leaders are unaware of the true situation in sections assigned to them and do not attempt to increase their ideological and political knowledge. There are serious deficiencies in the system of party political and economic education. In the last study year some 82,000 people, including 52,000 communists, were enrolled at over 8,000 schools. However, formalism and deception characterized the level of instruction at many of these schools. Although 107,000 lectures were given last year very few of them dealt with scientific and technological progress, acceleration, economic management, or economizing. Numerous lecturers failed to increase their knowledge, as indicated by last year's attestation that judged many of them to be unqualified.

The plenum adopted a resolution on the problems discussed. V.S. Berlizin, an executive of the CPSU Central Committee, participated in the plenum.

Dzhizak Obkom

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 15 November 1986 carries on page 2 an 800-word article by own correspondent B. Sattorov entitled "The Unity of Word and Deed Must Be Ensured" in which he reports on a plenum held by the Dzhizak Obkom at which Obkom First Secretary I. Umarov and others spoke on ways to improve ideological work. They pointed out that obkom efforts to restructure its ideological and political education work remain considerably behind party demands, resulting in failures to meet economic plans in industry, capital construction, and

transportation. Numerous leaders have acknowledged the errors they have permitted in this area, but have not kept their promises to correct them. One indication of the need to thoroughly restructure ideological work is that a rather large number of people in the oblast who are capable of socially useful work have not entered the labor force.

A formalistic approach is taken to instruction in the party political and economic education system. Several rayon party committees have permitted confusion and disorganization in preparations for the new study year. The oblast Znaniye organization is bogged down in paperwork and ignores the need to raise the effectiveness of lectures. Due to serious shortcomings in the field of atheistic education propagators of religion have greater possibilities opened to them. Taking advantage of the neglect of party and soviet organs, clerics had begun to build mosques or reconstruct existing ones in Dzhizak, Zamin, and Gallaaral Rayons, and Dzhizak City. Now, these illegal projects have been halted and party action has been taken against guilty parties.

Participants stressed the need to improve the selection, placement, and education of cadres, and adopted a resolution on problems discussed. V.M. Kuveneva, an executive of the CPSU Central Committee, participated in the plenum.

Syrdarya Obkom

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 16 November 1986 carries on page 3 an 800-word article by own social correspondent A. Umarov entitled "Strict Discipline Must Be Established!" in which he reports on a plenum held by the Syrdarya Obkom at which Obkom First Secretary A.F. Klepikov and others spoke on tasks in developing ideological work, stepping up the fight against unearned income, strengthening discipline and protecting socialist property. Speakers stressed the need to restructure the work of party organizations in order to establish a lofty ideological atmosphere and Leninist work principles.

Participants pointed out that the responsibility for extirpating the ill of unearned income falls on party, soviet, trade union, and komsomol organizations. Various party committees have not even discussed the party decision on unearned income and thus confine themselves to formal measures and campaigning. Speakers criticized soviet, farm, and administrative organs that fail to take action against those who steal state property. Several rayon party and soviet organizations permit errors in the allocation of land for private plots, so that the land is, in effect, being stolen. In the last year administrative organs have initiated criminal prosecution of several people guilty of taking bribes. However, much must be done to mobilize communists, collectives, and the entire public to fight against this hateful form of unearned income. Furthermore, the level of political education work must be increased so that the need for unearned income does not arise in peoples' minds.

Participants also emphasized the need to improve work with aktivs, analyzed ways to improve ideological work and fight unearned income, and adopted a resolution on these problems.

Bukhara Obkom

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 29 November 1986 carries on page 2 a 900-word article by own correspondent N. Naimov entitled "There Is no Room for Complacency" in which he reports on a plenum held by the Bukhara Obkom at which Obkom First Secretary I. Dzhabbarov and others spoke on tasks in strengthening ideological work. In the recent past neglect of this work led the oblast economy into backwardness and impeded social development. It destroyed the moral climate in labor collectives and produced serious errors and shortcomings in cadre policy.

The III plenum of the Uzbek CP Central Committee rightly criticized the obkom's shortcomings in this area, but certain leaders have not drawn the proper conclusions from this criticism nor restructured their work. The root of many problems in the oblast economy lies in the poor quality of ideological education. Presently, the enrollment in the party political and economic education system is over 130,000, but instruction does not adequately connect theory to practice. City and rayon Znaniye organizations have not renounced outdated methods of work.

Speakers analyzed errors and shortcomings in this area and suggested ways to correct them. They stressed the need to increase the number of communists at ideological establishments, improve work with women, and eliminate formalism in restructuring their work. V.A. Kaydurov, chairman of the the Uzbek SSR People's Control Committee, spoke at the plenum.

KARAKALPAK OBLAST PARTY AKTIV MEETS

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 2 November 1986 carries on page 2 a 1,100-word article by own correspondent R. Yeshimbetov entitled "We Must Eliminate Formalism" in which he reports on a meeting of the Karakalpak party aktiv at which Obkom First Secretary K. Salikov and others spoke on ways to increase the effectiveness of ideological work. In the last decade negative practices such as report-padding, deception, bribe-taking, and theft of state property have taken root in the autonomous republic and continue to occur despite the efforts of party committees to eliminate them.

In recent years the effectiveness of ideological work has declined in a number of cities and rayons. For example, the Karakalpak Obkom discussed the deteriorating socioeconomic situation in Nukus Rayon, removed two raykom secretaries, and severely punished First Secretary I. Dostchonov. The Nukus Gorkom is not supervising attendance of university enrollees in evening classes of the political and economic education system, so that attendance is not above 40 percent. The oblast Znaniye organization has not raised the quality of its lectures, and oblast media provide too much space to hackneyed materials. The obkom conducted an attestation of ideological cadres of 12 raykoms and determined that their knowledge, experience, and ability is substandard.

The meeting ended with a resolution concerning the issues discussed. V.I. Ogarok, Uzbek SSR First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, spoke at the meeting, and M.Kh. Kholmukhamedov, an executive of the CPSU Central Committee, took part.

MEDIA AND PROPAGANDA

FERGANA OBKOM RAPPED FOR HANDLING OF PRESS

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 1 November 1986 carries on page 3 an 800-word article by O. Muhammadjonov entitled "The Press Conference Did Not Come to Pass" in which he states that the Fergana Obkom can be taken as an example of party committees that fail to increase the activism of journalists and exert party leadership over the press. Following the III plenum of the Uzbek CP Central Committee, the Fergana Obkom scheduled a press conference to outline tasks facing the mass media and propaganda organs in restructuring ideological work on 23 October at 10:30, a time later changed to 4:00. The obkom's agitprop department informed newspaper editors, the oblast organization of the Uzbek Union of Journalists, and raykom officials who began making preparations for the trip to Fergana. However, on 22 October obkom officials discussed whether to postpone the conference because the cotton harvest was not finished. Early on 23 October the announcement was made that the conference was postponed, but a number of officials and journalists were already en route and thus wasted their time. Moreover, this disorganization at the oblast level provided a poor example to press workers.

Numerous oblast press organ leaders and journalists are not deeply involved in ideological work. Often they are diverted from performing this task. For example, the editorial office of the Uzbekistan Rayon newspaper PAKHTAKOR regularly sends its workers out to help bring in the harvest, but does so under the directive of the raykom. The raykom cannot resolve the fate of the harvest with a few press workers who could be of more use to farmers with their pens than with their hands. But this attitude toward journalists is common among rayon party officials. Party committees must take steps to ensure that press organs and their employees understand that the role of journalists is to educate workers in a communist spirit and to propagate the party's economic and social policies.

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CSO: 1830/357

MEDIA AND PROPAGANDA

BRIEFS

POLISH ANTINARCOTICS CAMPAIGN VIEWED--Once it was thought that drug addiction existed only in the West, but it exists in socialist countries too, although no one there talked about it openly until recent times. Degradation of the individual through the use of drugs happens 15-20 times faster than through alcohol abuse, and addiction becomes established at a much earlier stage. To combat addiction, flexible, well-planned strategies are needed. Poland leads the fields: it cures 40 percent of addicts, the highest figure in the world. According to official figures, there are about 40,000 chronic drug addicts in Poland. Eighteen "Houses of Warmth" have been built in Poland as treatment centers. Apart from the usual medical treatment, the addicts are taught how to live once again. Many of them became addicts because they were loners, not involved in an ordinary social life. The centers involve them in social, productive activities and provide a warm, caring atmosphere of human concern. The centers are self-financing, so the addicts have to earn their keep. The addicts have to abstain from drugs if they wish to remain in the centers. The centers are the brainchild of Marek Katanski, who has inspired the youth of Poland. In order to support former addicts and to prevent the inception of addiction, he founded the "Pure Hearts Movement" to promote virtue and self sacrifice. The movement now has about 10 million members, all striving to be of use in their lives. [Summary] [Moscow Television Service in Russian 1100 GMT 28 Feb 87 LD] /12913

UNION OFFICIALS APPOINTED--An organizational plenum has been held of the board of the union elected by the second congress of Kazakhstan journalists. The plenum elected Duseyev, who is the editor of the republic newspaper SOTSIALISTIK KAZAKHSTAN, as chairman of the Board of the Kazakhstan Union of Journalists. Ignatov, the editor of the republican newspaper KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA and Shalakhmetov, chairman of the Kazakh SSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting were elected as deputy chairmen of the Board of the Kazakh SSR Union of Journalists. Secretaries of the Board were also elected. [Text] [Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 1500 GMT 16 Feb 87 LD] /12913

CSO: 1830/413

RELIGION

UZBEK HOLY SITE INVESTIGATED

[Editorial Report] Tashkent OZBEKISTON ADABIYOTI VA SAN"ATI in Uzbek on 14 November 1986 carries on pages 5 and 8 a 2,600-word article by Doctor of History Abdulahad Muhammadjonov entitled "The Secrets of Bandikushod-ota" in which he discusses the results of an official investigation of the Bandikushod-ota holy site located on Bagizagan Sovkhoz in Samarkand Rayon. (The first part of this article appeared in the 31 October 1986 issue of the newspaper.) He points out that the name Bandikushod-ota does not appear in any encyclopedia or work written by authors who lived in Samarkand or its environs. However, the stone erected over the grave of this "saint" may serve as a source. It has an Arabic inscription with the name of the deceased, father's name, and the year and month of death. The inscription reads: "Sultonoroyi, daughter of Amirshaykh Yusuf, died in the 6th month of 862 (April 16-May 14, 1458)." Persian verses inscribed on the side of the stone state that Amirshaykh Yusuf's daughter Sultonoroyi was a beautiful girl who died at age 14 before she reached her prime. On this evidence, it is a girl, not a holy man, who is buried in Bandikushod-ota's grave.

Researchers spoke with many people in Bagizagan to find out their opinions of Bandikushod-ota. The majority of them, from educated officials and specialists to ordinary farmers, firmly believed in the "miracles" of the saint. Moreover, researchers learned that rayon and farm officials made it possible for the grave to be built up and turned into a pilgrimage site. Various documents certify that the sovkhos directorate allocated land and commissioned an irrigation project for the site, and the village soviet paid a man a monthly salary to tend the grounds. Former Raykom First Secretary M. Sherqulov was informed of the situation following a report by a special commission, but failed to take measures to correct it.

Investigators studied ethnographic materials gathered from talks with pilgrims to the site, the inscriptions on the grave stone, and existing historical and archeological materials on Bagizagan. In conjunction with archeological excavations, these scholars held a meeting at the sovkhos club which was attended by rayon activists, sovkhos workers, senior citizens, and those who tended the site. Scholars explained that most holy sites are entangled in superstitions connected with pre-Islamic Zoroastrian and shamanistic beliefs in Central Asia. Islamic religious

councils condemned worship at such sites. The Koran forbids the eating of meat of animals slaughtered as alms at these graves, and regards the collection of alms from pilgrims and the presence of shaykhs at graves as illicit.

Archeologists excavated the graves of Bandikushod-ota and Bibimushkul-kushod. In the latter grave they found scattered evidence of a 19th or early 20th century burial, but no other remains. This finding supported the admission of a previous shaykh named Istam Shukurova that she merely proclaimed the grave to be holy in 1970 in order to make the site more attractive to pilgrims. Excavation of Bandikushod-ota's grave revealed several bricks from the 1930s and tree roots at 1 meter and a farmer's hoe at 1.5 meters, but no trace of the remains of Bandikushod-ota or Sultonoroyi. However, a shaykh named Yahyo Zikirov admitted that they had dug up that spot when they built the mausoleum over the grave and had found no human bones. Zikirov chose to remain silent when asked if he had known all the while that the grave was fake.

The author concludes that the secrets of Bandikushod-ota have been revealed and his false sainthood exposed. He notes that this conclusion is not peculiar to this site, but is characteristic of all holy sites.

UZBEK RELIGIOUS LEADER TRIED FOR FAKE DOCUMENTS

[Editorial Report] Tashkent OZBEKISTON ADABIYOTI VA SAN"ATI in Uzbek on 7 November 1986 carries on page 8 a 1,700-word article by Habibulla Olimjonov entitled "The Adventures of the Fake Mullah" in which he discusses the case of Azizullo Hamidov, a 46-year old Andizhanian who is taken as a "typical" representative of the fake leaders of the Shariat (Islamic law). Investigation of Hamidov revealed that he married three times, and each time presented a "clean" passport certifying him as single. His last wife Mohido was 21 when they married in 1984. According to her deposition they lived together for seven months, but their life did not conform to the socialist way of life. Hamidov had three work books and two passports, and in one of the latter he had altered his date of birth from 1940 to 1949. In Winter of 1984 Hamidov brought to their home a 60-year old tabib from Margilan and married him to a 19-year old girl from Shakhrisabz according to the Shariat. The couple lived in their house for two months. During that time the tabib told stories about living in Turkey, Iran, and Arab countries, and listened to radio broadcasts in Arabic and Hindi. Hamidov turned their home into a warehouse for clothing and other goods which he sold by speculation.

In sentencing him to prison for falsifying documents and deceiving the state, the Oktyabr Rayon People's Court of Tashkent City noted that Hamidov had falsified documents to state that he had worked at several places since 1958. For example, supposedly he left a job at Tashkent Furniture Factory in 1963 because he was called up into military service. In fact, the Andizhan Military Commissariat found him unfit for military service.

A major question arising from his trial was how a 45-year old man who had never done socially useful labor managed to marry three women, drive a 10,000 ruble car, and buy a home in Tashkent for 29,000 rubles. Hamidov testified that he borrowed the money from relatives and in any case had a document stating that the home's value was 2,000 rubles. At his trial Hamidov asked what he was guilty of, and questioned whether he was being persecuted because of religion. However, he was not guilty of that, but of shirking socially useful labor and using religion for his own interests. Moreover, he engaged in speculation, created fake documents, and corrupted innocent girls by claiming he was a bachelor.

PILGRIMAGES TO UZBEK HOLY SITES RAPPED

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 4 November 1986 carries on page 2 a 1,100-word article by own correspondent A. Khalilov entitled "Simpletons and Frauds" in which he discusses pilgrimages to several holy sites in Surkhandarya Oblast. One site is located on the territory of Galaba Kolkhoz in Denau Rayon and is called Koppak-ota by local people. Fraudulent religious types swindle money and animals from pilgrims who visit the site in hopes of a cure for various ailments. These frauds accumulate money by reading a few passages from the Koran to the spirit of Koppak-ota. A tomb has been built over the grave and the grounds are tended by 40 shaykhs from 10 families who live in the area. However, the tomb and environs are so filthy and foul-smelling that those seeking a cure might sooner find a disease here. Amazingly, Abdusalom Torayev, a secretary of the kolkhoz party committee, Oysoat Turdialiyeva, chairwoman of the village soviet, and various raykom officials, visit this site and make the holy sign at its gate.

Another holy site called Khojai Pok-ota is a stream containing sulphur that flows from a cave in the mountainous area where Altinsay and Shorchi Rayons meet. Various religious frauds collect money and animals from sick people who visit the site in search of a cure. They slaughter sheep and goats and let the blood flow into the water. Then, they have the sick people bathe in the stream. In the hills skirting Kohitang Mountain on Kommunizm Sovkhoz in Sherabad Rayon there is a spring called Chilanazar. A person named Boyit Mergan Qodirov has built himself a home and corral here. At some point he built a fake tomb and proclaimed himself its shaykh. In this way he makes unearned income off simpletons who visit the site to worship. Rayon party and soviet leaders are surprised by this information, but take no effective action to correct the situation.

There are numerous holy sites in Surkhandarya Oblast. Tombs, mausoleums, and architectural ensembles exist at over 60 percent of the oblast's water basins, mineral springs, great trees, woods, caves, and hills. Parasites, shaykhs, half-baked mullahs, and fake ishans have built nests at such sites and bilk those who come for cures. Party and komsomol organizations, atheists, and communists must wage a relentless fight against such backward notions.

SAMARKAND OBKOM RESTRUCTURES ATHEISTIC WORK

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 4 November 1986 carries on page 2 a 1,100-word article by F. Shukurova, a secretary of the Samarkand Obkom, entitled "Guide to Practical Work" in which she discusses obkom efforts to restructure its ideological and atheistic education work. The 13 June session of the Uzbek CP Central Committee Buro criticized the complacency of the obkom in this field, discussed the Samarkand Raykom's errors and shortcomings in ideological work, and removed Raykom First Secretary M. Sherqulov. The Buro's review of this problem was a profound lesson for oblast party organizations which began to mete out party punishment and remove from their posts those leaders who permitted shortcomings in atheistic work and showed themselves to be irresponsible, vacillatory, and ideologically immature.

Presently, the obkom and scholars of the Archeology Institute of the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences are studying holy sites frequented by pilgrims. It has been proven that clerics contrived a number of holy sites to accumulate personal wealth. Such sites include Murad Avliya in Temiriyul Rayon, Daniyarbek, Bibimushkul-kushod, and Khojaroshnai in Siyab Rayon, Hazrati Davut in Sovetabad Rayon, and Bandikushod-ota in Samarkand Rayon. Recently, the number of pilgrims to these sites has sharply declined.

The obkom has been reviewing the work of those responsible for the education of youth. Young atheist circles have been formed at secondary, trade, and vocational schools. Young people are condemning vestiges of the past at girls' clubs. Collectives of oblast newspapers and radio have begun to get involved in this work. For example, the newspaper LENINSKIY PUT, in cooperation with the Samarkand Gorkom, is conducting sociological research on the population's attitude toward religion. However, the mass media have not rid themselves of the practice of campaigning in the propagation of new traditions.

There are still cases of communists and komsomols taking part in religious ceremonies. This occurs wherever primary party organizations fail to show sufficient militancy. The recently held meeting of the oblast party aktiv discussed the problem of restructuring their work. Medical workers, village activists, and communists continue to neglect the problem of people who consult fortune-tellers and tabibs when they are sick. Soviet and law and order organs must be more effective in curbing the activities of wandering mullahs and people who disguise as religion their attempts to accumulate wealth. In changing their approach to atheistic work, party organizations must increase the responsibility of communists, komsomols, and leaders, and assess in a principled way every instance in which children fall under the influence of religion and communists take part in religious ceremonies and festivals.

ATHEISTIC WORK IN NAMANGAN OBLAST TERMED INEFFECTIVE

[Editorial Report] Tashkent OZBEKISTON ADABIYOTI VA SAN"ATI in Uzbek on 21 November 1986 carries on pages 5 and 8 a 1,800-word article by Viktor Alimasov, teacher at Namangan Filial of the Tashkent State Cultural Institute, entitled "Head Shawl" in which he cites examples that indicate the ineffectiveness of atheistic work in Namangan Oblast. The teacher recounts a conversation he had with a man who said that today's young people do not respect their elders because they lack conviction and there can be no conviction in someone who does not recognize Allah and what He has created. The teacher replied that conviction is not defined by belief in God, but is reflected in honest labor and life. The man said that the Koran urges people to do honest work and respect one's elders, but there is a great difference between modern conviction and that of prior generations who got respect because they believed in Allah and taught their children to believe. Then the man asked the teacher whether he was opposed to the Koran, and it turned out that his true goal was to sell the teacher a Koran. He recalls an article published in the 16 August 1986 issue of NAMANGANSKAYA PRAVDA which exposed Ubaydulla Sultonov, a person from Dushanbe who was arrested for selling religious books after attempting to send a "Mavlud" (collection of writings about the Prophet's birthday) through the mail.

The author notes that an atheism month was held in Namangan City. He recalls witnessing a group of atheist people's guards stop a woman who was wearing a head shawl, remove it, and tell her that she could not wear it in public places. The woman laughed at them, replaced the shawl, and walked away. Some trade workers have tried to combat the wearing of the shawl by hanging signs in stores that read "No sales to those in shawls." However, these and other measures have not had much influence on the population.

The level of atheistic education in neighborhoods is low, and the work of cultural enlightenment establishments is disorganized and confused. These establishments have not even studied the problem and do not know the degree of religious belief among the population. In order to be effective they need scientific findings on the psychology and interests of people. Without comprehensive research on this subject every attempt to influence people is futile. National studies have shown that religious beliefs are more prevalent among people not engaged in socially useful labor or without some useful way to occupy their free time.

The teacher remarks that ideological enemies abroad expend enormous funds and energy to propagate their anti-communist slander. Beside the Uzbek language broadcasts of Voice of America and Deutsche Welle some 14 foreign radio stations try to poison Soviet minds with broadcasts on various religious themes. Religious books and microfilms are brought in from abroad. Every effort must be made to intensify atheistic education and expose bourgeois religious-mystical propaganda.

MOSQUES RECONSTRUCTED, BUILT IN DZHIZAK OBLAST

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 29 November 1986 carries on page 2 a 900-word article by own correspondent B. Sattorov entitled "Is This Militancy?" in which he discusses the coverage of atheistic themes by the Dzhizak Rayon newspaper KOMMUNIZM SARI. Although the paper recently has increased its coverage, many of the articles it publishes are confined to generalities and admonishments or filled with glaring errors. Moreover, the newspaper has failed to cover cases of open propagation of Islam, most notably the restoration or construction of a number of mosques in recent years. Construction of the Koshchinar Mosque alone required 434 cubic meters of lumber, 229,000 bricks, 920 sheets of tin, and 80 tons of cement. A number of construction organizations illegally worked on this project. Official documents for its construction were drawn up three years after it was completed. Former Rayispolkom Deputy Chairmen V. Ochilov and B. Hamidjonov helped accelerate its construction. Former Sovetabad Village Soviet Chairwoman Abdulhatova pretended not to be aware of its construction. In addition to mosques, many holy sites are being restored in the rayon. Yet, KOMMUNIZM SARI has said nothing about the causes of such cases or the people and leaders accountable for them. The Dzhizak Raykom must provide more thorough supervision over the work of its press organ.

UZBEK RAYKOM FAULTED FOR INEFFECTIVE ATHEISTIC WORK

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 5 November 1986 carries on page 2 an 800-word article by own correspondent J. Mamatov entitled "Understanding the Essence of Atheism" in which he reports on a plenum held by the Urgut Raykom which was severely criticized at the 21st Uzbek CP Congress for its neglect of political and atheistic education work. The raykom has taken steps to correct this situation by firing officials, closing holy sites, and organizing atheistic clubs. However, it must still do a great deal of work in this area. Various communists do not understand their tasks and try to avoid thinking about this problem. Some komsomol members have fallen under the influence of religion and attend mosques. The rayon Znaniye organization has held too few lectures and talks. The rayon press prints only general articles on the subject. Village soviets have failed to propagate modern traditions and expose vestiges of the past, and have made it possible for clerics to conduct religious ceremonies in the open. Speakers at the plenum focused on ways to solve these and other problems.

UZBEK BOOKS ON ATHEISM, ISLAM PUBLISHED

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 4 November 1986 carries on page 2 a 300-word item under the "For the Atheist's Library" rubric which describes three recently published books in Uzbek. "Social Progress and Atheism" (Fan Publishing House), written by J. Yakhshilikov, deals with conflicts between the scientific worldview and religious beliefs, the social consequences of material production and its atheistic significance, and new trends in the formation of a scientific atheistic worldview. "False Friends of Islam" (Fan Publishing House), written by D. Valneva, discusses the attempts of American imperialism to implement a colonialist policy under the cloak of false slogans like "Friendship with Muslims" and "Defending Islam," the Islamic factor in national liberation movements of Muslim peoples in Middle and Near Eastern countries, and the progressive or reactionary role of Islam in various historical circumstances. "Healing, Superstition, and True Salvation" (Meditsina Publishing House), written by A. Ergashev, covers the history of folk medicine and medical services in Uzbekistan prior to the revolution and today, and the harm wrought on peoples' health and society by worship at holy sites and by fake tabibs, sorcerers, and ishans.

RELIGIOUS WEDDINGS AMONG UZBEKS SCORED

[Editorial Report] Tashkent OZBEKISTON ADAEIYOTI VA SAN"ATI in Uzbek on 14 November 1986 carries on page 7 a 500-word article by Yoldash Abdullayev entitled "Is It Necessary to Have Marriage Vows Read?" in which he notes that, despite the disappearance of some religious customs, others persist. One of them is the practice of going to a mullah to have marriage vows read. In recent years young couples increasingly have been going to mosques, which have a special place for reading of marriage vows, following their registration at ZAGS. In the author's opinion this practice should be halted because building a family or being man and wife is a civil, not a religious matter. In the past working people were illiterate. Thus, it made sense for them to have their marriage vows read by someone who could read and write and serve as official witnesses. By reading the vows the mullah made the marriage legal and, not coincidentally, profited from it. However, under the Soviet regime marriages are made legal by registration at the ZAGS. The author states that most people know that such religious vestiges have no meaning at all today, but are practiced in some families at the behest of a few backward, ignorant people. He urges komsomols and parents to explain the truth about religion to various elderly members of their families.

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CSO: 1830/359

CULTURE

KAZAKH WRITER VIEWS PAST ERRORS, RECENT EVENTS

PM061600 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Mar 87 First Edition p 2

[Article by Abdizhamil Nurpeisov, people's writer of Kazakhstan and USSR State Prize winner, under the rubric "A Writer's Notes": "Elevating Our Sacred Treasures"]

[Text] Alma-Ata--At one time the Kazakh people used to say: "Friendship makes the dzhigit [brave horseman] strong, but concentration makes him wise." Indeed, a person's life does not consist solely of actions and deeds, but also of interpreting them. It is the need to interpret his activity that makes a person an individual. This need has today drawn me to this blank sheet of paper to share the thoughts that are seething in my mind, seeking expression, and to check some of my conclusions against my contemporaries' experience and, ultimately, against their understanding and conscience. This desire is fanned first by growing self-awareness, and also by the party's increasingly persistent demands for the further democratization of all aspects of our socialist society's life.

The further society advances in the realization of its cherished ideals, the more intolerant it will be of any manifestation of human baseness. It is common knowledge that people are not always free of personal shortcomings. Human imperfection, which in the critical moments of war takes the form of pusillanimity and cowardice, is manifested in peacetime as hypocrisy and baseness. Hence it is not hard to see why over the last two years our struggle has taken on an uncompromising and resolute character everywhere. This is only natural.

Whatever form human baseness may take, whatever fine disguise it adopts, its name is saving your own skin. Not for nothing has this phrase, which originated in the trenches, taken such deep root in the peacetime vocabulary. Because in principle, it makes no difference what goal the egoist pursues--saving his mortal skin, or embellishing it. And as one who took part in the war, as an old soldier myself, I can testify that even then those infected with selfish concern for their own skin were mainly people without a firm life stance, and today, in my view, its victims are people of the same base stamp. Look how many people we have discovered and are still discovering who are sanctimonious petty bourgeois operating under cover of a party card. It was they who started the process, their frantic careerism which gave rise to all kinds of nepotism, home-town bias, bribe-taking, and favoritism that

threatened to eat away at the sacred moral foundations of our society, like rust eroding iron.

The tasks now facing us brook no delay. No time remains for the luxury of a slow start. Is it not immoral to continue foaming at the mouth and spouting demagoguery about how many hundred more years the planet's forest and mineral resources will last? Is not an unprecedented crime being committed this very day, before our very eyes--the ecological decay of an impoverished globe, the drying up of the seas and lakes, and, worse, the moral impoverishment of many people to feed the ever-growing appetite of all kinds of rogues? Are not the barbarians not only at our heels, but at our throats, attacking the sacred principles of our life? Are there not more than enough people among our own neighbors and colleagues who are prepared, without a second thought, to sacrifice honor and conscience for the sake of climbing the next rung on the official ladder, for the sake of a flattering report on their dissertation or a place in a prestigious educational institution for their offspring? Are not some people's ears offended by words like "honor" and "conscience," "shame" and "decency," which have become prematurely archaic for some people, while for many people such fashionable locutions as "influence," "patronage," and "chic" have acquired a magical sound?

In a word, even in peacetime there is a great need for valor, spiritual tenacity, incorruptibility of conscience. Even in the days of peace one clearly cannot avoid the implacable duel between honor and human meanness and baseness, between decency and philistinism, and this duel certainly requires us to mobilize all our mental forces and talent, all the fervor of our hearts. And it is here, I believe, that literature and art must have their say, and not remain aloof from a cause of such importance to us as the cultivation of an active life stance in people. For on every battlefield it is people that decide everything, it is their strength of character, which is based on the correct definition and consistent defense of their position and profound conviction of the need for their personal participation in resolving cardinal problems of the restructuring of society and people's very way of thinking.

In response to the party's call, restructuring is under way in the country. Its volcanic shocks are throwing up all the alien accretions that only yesterday were thought to be safely hidden at impenetrable depths. Now it is Kazakhstan's turn to pass through profound shocks and an equally profound and necessary cleansing process.

Recently a comrade of mine, after skimming through the newspaper, grinned and said: "Kazakhstan has always been in the news, but now it's really hitting the headlines." Insulting? Very. But how much bitter truth there is in the words of this wit! Yes, there were flagrant violations. Take, for instance, the formation of the student and teaching body in Alma-Ata's VUZ's, about which the press has already cited irrefutable facts. Those who brought this about must be called strictly to account. But at the same time there is one fact that must be taken into account. The republic's Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education gave me this figure: Of the Kazakhs applying to the republic's institutes, fewer than half got in. Among the school leavers of other nationalities, a considerably higher percentage were successful in the entrance competition. How is this to be explained? Mainly

by the fact that the herdsmen's children still, frankly, have a poor command of Russian.

And another thing, in my view local peculiarities and the national economic and cultural needs of individual regions must be given more careful consideration in admissions to the republic's VUZ's. Put your hand on your heart, make no secret of the far from idyllic--by the standards of modern urban life--living conditions and cultural standard in remote villages somewhere in the steppes, away from the benefits of civilization, and tell me: Who would agree to go there, to settle forever and work as hard as they can? Naturally, the herdsmen's children, the natives of these places. It is they who fill the ranks of doctors and teachers, economists and land reclamation specialists, electricians and movie operators, and specialists in other sectors of the national economy in the remote villages. And indeed, there are even rayon centers and oblast cities where comfort and the level of development still lag behind the standards of the capital in very many respects.

As I have said, children in the remote villages often do not study Russian and therefore have a poor knowledge of it, while many young urban Kazakhs, conversely, have a different, equally acute problem: They have a poor mastery of their native language. What should we do in this situation? What radical decision should we come to? Here, in my view, there is only one way out. In the first place, to introduce the compulsory study of Russian for the herdsmen's children, improving its teaching, and in the second place, to provide for the compulsory, in-depth study of the Kazakh language. And this good, necessary cause must not be turned into a commonplace measure carried out purely for show.

Naturally, in the bitter December days of the well-known events in Alma-Ata, we needed a profound analysis based on Leninist principles more than ever, and we still need it now. But unfortunately it is not always possible to avoid foregone conclusions which are too categorical. In my view it is not quite right, on the basis of individual mistakes by individual people or even a group of people, to form generalized, hasty opinions such as that certain regions of Kazakhstan are inhabited solely by crooks and smart operators, and others solely by angels. It is far more sensible to take care to preserve and not to violate in any circumstances the unity of a fundamentally united people. Some people failed to notice that they were singing practically the same tune as those who in the recent past were setting Kazakhstan's cadres against one another, those who created their own flawed ideology, even, if you like, their own philosophy of ethnocentrism in the selection and placing of leadership cadres not on the basis of their practical qualities, but on the basis of biography and geography.

I fully support the idea put forward by M.S. Gorbachev at the CPSU Central Committee meeting with leaders of the mass information and propaganda media, that the new generations "must be educated and given modern ideas about where they live and how this unique phenomenon in human history came about, so that more than 100 nations and ethnic groups live, even judging by the large-scale yardsticks of history, harmoniously and well."

On my own account, I would add: We must educate them so that a Soviet person regards himself first of all as a citizen of the USSR, and then as a representative of a particular nation. In a word, these concepts should be invisible. And they are, for me and for very many Soviet people. The instrument of the country's internationalization was and is the great Russian language. At the same time I regard arguments about the paramount attractions of one language or another as spurious. Here there is only one criterion: the Leninist approach, which acknowledges bilingualism as the norm of life in the national republics.

Today my fellow tribesmen would, beyond all doubt, feel poorer, deprived, without either of the two languages--Russian or Kazakh. If, for us, one of them is the very spirit of our own people, the living link with the past and envoy to the future, the other represents an open window onto the wide world, the whole wide universe. The two languages of the two fraternal peoples should be regarded as the two breasts of a single mother. It is indisputable that a child grows stronger and healthier when it is not deprived of its mother's milk and when it feeds at both the mother's breasts.

That is the wisdom of life. And, guided by this historically vindicated wisdom, we have always had the greatest love and respect both for our friendship with the Russian people and for their language, which gave the world a whole constellation of giants of thought and poetry. It must be remembered that to know another language means respect for the people, improves interpersonal relations, and facilitates adaptation to a different ethnic environment.

There is also much talk in the republic about the need to study the Kazakh language, but so far there are not many good textbooks, dictionaries, or evening and correspondence courses and the problems of simultaneous interpretation have not been resolved. The necessary solutions must be found to meet the interests of people of different nations.

So, neither higher nor lower, but among equals--that is the place of every people in the great family of the Soviets. And each of us should feel himself to be an integral part of a united destiny. Of course, all decent Kazakhs felt profoundly grieved by the events of those two December days in Alma-Ata. More than once at that time I remembered my contemporaries, who were 17 or 18 years old in the last war, the age these youngsters are now. I remember some of them went straight to the front from the school bench, and went into the attack, weapons in their hands, side by side with their fathers and elder brothers.

But these... Three months after the events, I wonder what they now think about their actions. A mistake? Impulsiveness? The characteristic youthful tendency to rush into things... But may I ask, who were they following? Surely everyone in the republic, including the Kazakhs themselves, had a share in what was done under the previous leadership? No, and again no. The vast majority did not approve the errors and shortcomings that occurred. In recent years many people did not agree and were even indignant about them. And if not everything was stated in public, that was the fault of the long-established absence of full openness. This unforgivable delay in

restructuring gave negative elements the opportunity to pool their efforts in order to prevent their own final exposure and, taking advantage of the insufficiently clear orientation regarding the true nature of the prevailing circumstances, to resort to purely provocative sorties of the nature of utterly reckless hooliganism, while clumsily disguising this fact with demagogical blather about supposed violations of national interest. And did it not become clear that all those who yesterday grossly flouted the rule of law and the principles of social justice and permitted themselves anything are today moved by nothing but the desire to act to save their own skin?

Every nation, regardless of whether it is large or small, has its peculiarities. That truth does not require proof. If you proceed on this basis, the Kazakh people, for instance, have from time immemorial been characterized by hospitality, kindness, trustfulness, and ingenuousness. Nearly every traveler, scientist, and political exile has written about these national characteristics of our people. The Kazakhs have demonstrated in practice their hospitality, good will, sensitivity of understanding, and sympathy with other peoples. Who, for instance, in my generation does not remember how our fathers and grandfathers, mainly illiterate herdsmen living somewhere in the steppes, had their friends among the Russians? The Russians also willingly made friends with the people of the steppes, and they called each other "tamyr," which means "roots." The common people are mainly predisposed toward natural, direct manners. And people approached friendship without prejudice, simply and sincerely, revealing generosity, nobility, and reliability in all their deeds. If they called themselves "tamyr," you can be sure that they were strong, tenacious roots, firm bonds of friendship.

In recent days we have begun to look back more often than before at the path trod by our fathers, and more often to rouse our sometimes slumbering memory. I recalled a certain episode in the life of the Russian writer Yu. Dombrovskiy. The 20 year old Yura Dombrovskiy, who was once exiled to Kazakhstan, near Alma-Ata, lived in a year of acute famine with the family of a Kazakh woman with four children. And this illiterate Kazakh woman with no breadwinner would pull from the hot embers of the hearth a flat cake burnt at the edges but filling the poor home with the incomparable smell of bread, and divide it into two equal parts. One half she gave to the Russian youth with his long scrawny neck and long hands, hardly thinking that 20 years later he would be a famous Soviet writer. And this good Kazakh woman, in the words of her former lodger, divided the second half of the cake into four pieces and gave it to her four hungry children.

Yuriy Osipovich, who himself had been moved so long ago, every time he told the story of this human deed, was not in the least ashamed of his tears of emotion and gratitude--on the contrary, every time he seemed to be struck anew by the kindness of an ordinary village woman with a real motherly heart. And is not this human kindness and sympathy, simple, but emanating from a pure heart, the source of the deep roots of the firm friendship and sense of international solidarity which we speak of, not without pride, as a characteristic feature of the Soviet person's spiritual makeup? It is equally indisputable that only friendship, only mutual understanding and support between our peoples guaranteed and continue to guarantee the flourishing of our labor and creative forces. As part of a single family, beneath the roof

of our shared socialist home, we always share both the sorrow and the joy that fall to the lot of our motherland, closing our ranks.

In the second year of the war I went to the front, straight from school. I cannot forget how on the way we met echelons with the terrible words on the cars: "Evacuation of children." Children deprived of their homes and their parents' tenderness and concern watched us wide-eyed. And these sad, innocent eyes convinced me forever that children cannot be divided into ours and theirs, that the human race is an indivisible whole. And this war, which robbed us of many joys, at the same time persuaded me of the indissoluble unity of the entire human tribe and the lack of insuperable barriers on the path to its solidarity, if only it learns, once and for all, that there is no other path than that of great trust.

The more we are aware today of man's bold journey into space, the colossal constructive and destructive capacities of new discoveries in science and technology, and the terrible truth that the earth does not have unlimited capacities to feed us, the more keenly and profoundly we recognize our unity and indivisibility in the USSR. It is necessary to make every effort to safeguard, augment, and elevate the sacred treasures of the socialist way of life. To live harmoniously in a united Soviet family--that is the source of our peoples' invincible strength. Only friendship, only trust among Soviet people will help to preserve peace and create calm and prosperity for us all.

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CSO: 1830/342

CULTURE

WRITER VIEWS CONTINUING FIGHT AGAINST 'LYSENKOISM'

PM051641 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 17 Feb 87 p 6

[Interview with Vladimir Dudintsev by N. Zagalskaya under the rubric "Encounter With a Writer": "The Genetics of Conscience"--no place or date of interview given; first two paragraphs are SOVETSKAYA KULTURA introduction]

[Text] In the mid-sixties, Yuriy Trifonov formulated the main task of his book as follows in the novella "The Campfire's Reflection" [Otblesk Kostra]: "The basic idea is to record the truth, no matter how cruel or frightening it may be. After all, truth will come in useful--eventually...." How important and topical the writer's words sound today. We do, after all, believe that this "eventually..." has arrived. Many people may say: "Come on, how much can be said about the 'truth'? From every rostrum, on every newspaper page.... You cannot astonish anyone with it any more. No matter how 'cruel' or 'frightening....'" And yet.... All of the truth, which is at times spoken with such waste of self-flagellation today, is about out time. It is much more difficult to tell the truth about the past. Why should this be so? It may be because we all share the present, because all our victories and errors will ultimately lie on the conscience of just one historical generation. The present somehow gives us a chance to make up for some things, to set some things right. The past offers no such chance. Its sentence is always harsh because it cannot be revised. It was this "historical" truth, the truth of the past, that Trifonov had in mind in "The Campfire's Reflection." And while we are talking about openness without any slyness today, we must fully face up to the question of our attitude to the recent past, or rather to those of its phenomena which, for a long time, fell within a kind of "zone of silence." A number of works, attempting to interpret that time and to draw from historical analysis the lessons which we so urgently need today, have appeared almost simultaneously in both literature and art. They include T. Abuladze's movie "Repentance" and A. Bek's novel "New Destination" [Novoye Naznachenie]....

They also include V. Dudintsev's new novel "The White Coats" [Belyye Odezhdy], now being published by the journal NEVA.

[Zagalskaya] What I would like to know, Vladimir Dmitriyevich, is what made you personally address one of the most dramatic episodes in the history of Soviet biology? Is there any need today to bring into the open certain unseemly aspects of our recent past?

[Dudintsev] Some people say that the past, unless duly analyzed in the present, will remain a heavy burden to be carried. I agree with this, and I believe that people who are upset by the sight of open wounds must at long last pluck up sufficient courage to look at them rather than squeamishly turning their eyes aside. The past is not a collection of old junk that is brought out of the trunks once in a hundred years for the sole purpose of examining what is suitable. It contains far too much, including traces of the effects of serious illnesses whose recurrence would be undesirable. By turning to history, we develop within society a social immunity to such illnesses.

When the ration card system was in operation in the country, it was possible to use coupons to buy bread a day or two in advance. It was not possible, however, to obtain a double ration by using yesterday's coupons. Matters are different with criticism. If you did not "receive" your ration of criticism yesterday you will get a double portion tomorrow, if there was no criticism for a month you will "swallow" a month's ration. And even if you refuse to "swallow," ultimately you will still be due to receive the whole "ration"—shortcomings which are not promptly eliminated through criticism will result in catastrophe. You need criticism as much as you need bread—for your own health.

But it was by no means any need to criticize "those" times that made me address the recent past. For me, as someone striving to become a serious artist, those times were a major page in history. Had it not been for the "recent" past, and had life corresponded with the pictures painted by the representatives of the "glossing" of reality in art, we would be unable to perceive the real heights that man is capable of scaling. I am convinced that our best and our worst sides are displayed only under really harsh conditions. It seems to me that I would not have become a writer in a society where "life's curses do not reach into the garden beyond the high wall."

[Zagalskaya] Vladimir Dmitriyevich, readers are quite familiar with your book "Not by Bread Alone" [Ne Khlebom Yedinyam]. The 30th anniversary of the novel's first publication in a journal was a short while ago. And even though the occasion has passed, I would like to turn our conversation to that novel. After all, many of the themes which are important for a correct understanding of the new novel seem to me to originate there.... How did it happen that an inventor became the main hero of "Not by Bread Alone?"

[Dudintsev] During the postwar years I worked with KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA as a roving feature writer and was often assigned to write up various inventors. I kind of specialized in the subject. I knew many inventors. They were impassioned people, enthusiastic, profoundly gifted, fueled by an inner fire, prepared to gamble everything for the sake of scientific truth. I witnessed how fate dealt harsh blows to many people. The inventors infected me with hatred for a certain circle of people in science—bureaucrats, envious people, demagogues, ignoramuses—and with great sympathy and respect for genuine and honest scientists. I gained access to some engineering and science and technology societies where specialists were working on their own inventions. They had to "push through" the innovations, in other words to run to ministries, organize feasibility studies, write newspaper articles.... Gradually the

inventors, having recognized me as a fellow-thinker, started bringing me their files--documents, letters to various offices. This was how I started accumulating abundant material....

[Zagalskaya] To judge by contemporary reports, the novel which was published by NOVYY MIR in 1956 generated a real storm of discussions and arguments. What do you see, with "historical hindsight," as the reason behind your stunning success at the time?

[Dudintsev] The book's heroes--inventors and scientists--comprised a group of people who bore in particular the imprint of the natural law [zakonomernost] of the time. The main hero in my novel was recognizable, and therefore the story of his fate was perceived by readers in the fifties as an anthology of the fates of many of their talented contemporaries. When passions around the novel had cooled down somewhat, I even thought that I would never write anything else--life would hardly produce such rich material for a second time. And I could no longer revert to the newspaper style of writing, trying to "beat the deadline."

[Zagalskaya] What natural laws "of that time" do you have in mind?

[Dudintsev] There is, generally speaking, just one natural law. Nature rejects foreign bodies from its organism. If we, for example, start building plants along the river banks and discharging toxic substances into the rivers, nature will certainly respond by impairing the quality of our own life--water levels decline, fish die off, forests perish, soil erosion begins, and grain harvest yields fall.

I observed similar phenomena when coming across the problems of inventors. Society was suffering from a serious disease--what I mean is the personality cult. I am convinced that we could have scaled tremendous heights, had our society's organism not been infected by such a dangerous ailment. We would have avoided numerous terrible confusions and irreparable mistakes, and the historical memory of our people would not have been burdened by thousands of crippled destinies.

But how did social nature react to this disease? By swelling up in the shape of the bureaucratic apparatus, with all of the ensuing consequences. Unfortunately, the inventor in our country is always a cut-off, isolated soldier in the field. He is part of a departmental network, but his innovation brings great complications into its life. At the same time, he is seeking fellow-thinkers. And he finds them. At one point in time I, a writer, was one such fellow-thinker. And looking at this network, you understand that it was not simply a matter of failure in my inventor's life: There was also the effect of universal natural laws, of the system.

The very same natural laws also produced an effect in biology.

Soon after the novel "Not by Bread Alone" was published, I started noticing many scientists reaching out to me. They expected help from me in their misfortunes. They were classical geneticists, victims of Academician Lysenko, who was president of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences

at the time and had pinned on genetics the tags of "pseudoscience," "reactionary teaching," and "antipeople trend...." He claimed to recognize the so-called Michurin trend as the only correct one in biology, but what he meant in fact was a vulgar interpretation of Michurin's teaching. Geneticists were still somehow able to work until the 1948 session of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences of tragic memory, but after the crushing of the chromosome theory at the session they were forced to draw aside.

[The following passage, enclosed within slantlines, appears in a different typeface]

/...Confusion in science does not indicate a scientist's ignorance.

/Tiho Brahe, disbelieving Copernicus, construction his own model of the universe placing the Earth in its center. He was an honest scientist and, until the end of his life and frenzied in his confusion, disputed the heliocentric view of the cosmos. It was not he, however, but an ignoramus who placed the dunce's cap on Copernicus' head.

/Jan Hus was killed by people's disbelief in him. But it was the very same obliging ignoramuses who threw the witch's broom into the flames which were already licking his feet.

/Basically speaking, the ignoramus has been one and the same all through the ages, and he has not always worn the inquisitor's robes. He is easy to recognize—he is aggressive and suspicious. He does not accept other people's viewpoints or any alternative to his own views. It is his vocabulary that produces works like "ban," "crush," "expose...."

/And words like these were spoken from authoritative rostrums by scientists and honorable academicians. They had gathered for the session to "discuss the situation in biological science," but the "discussion" boiled down to a downright crushing of classical genetics and led several geneticists to renounce their scientific beliefs. At that time demagoguery frequently won over scientific sobriety, objectivity, and truth. But today one would like to mention by name the scientists who, under those complex circumstances, preserved their dignity and their loyalty to themselves and their scientific views./

I was lucky—I mixed with major specialists who were victims of Lysenko's activities. They were highly gifted people with universal culture, real patriots, and genuine scientists. Everything started with Doctor of Sciences Vladimir Pavlovich Efroimson, author of many fundamental works on genetics. His crushing but little-known works against Lysenko were published in 1956 by the BYULLETEN MOSKOVSKOGO OBNCHESTVA ISPYTATELEY PRIRODY. Efroimson suffered a lot for his scientific views at the time. My meeting with Vladimir Pavlovich paved the way to numerous scientists: I met Academician N.A. Maysuryan and his wife, Doctor of Biological Sciences A.I. Atabekova; Academician B.L. Astaurov; I.A. Rapoport, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Doctor of Biological Sciences V.V. Sakharov; and N.A. Lebedeva, who did in real life what Strigalev did in the novel "The White coats." I am obliged to them all for the fact that the book was published.

[Zagalskaya] Fedor Ivanovich, the hero of your new novel, ponders a lot on the mutual relationship between good and evil. Life torments him. He tries to combat the eternal invincibility of evil and ultimately develops principles to obtain the moral right to act against it. Was this moral core of the novel also the product of your observations of the geneticists' fate?

[Dudintsev] Not quite. The issue arose earlier. Somehow in connection with "Not by Bread Alone." Since we are already on the subject, I would like to narrate one episode. It is known by many people, but some interpret it incorrectly. The point is that, following the novel's publication in NOVYY MIR, our literary functionaries descended on Simonov, who was the journal's chief editor at the time.

But Simonov managed to develop a line of behavior which, at the time, not only embarrassed but also insulted me as author of the novel which had alarmed the bureaucrats. It appeared as if he was almost repudiating both me and my creation. It was only later that I understood Simonov's wisdom (he was in the best position to know the weight of the functionaries' blows). After all, ultimately he accomplished the main thing—he published the novel, and all the rest was no longer so important. And then I understood: If Simonov became chief editor again, it would be to him that I would take the new book.

A rocket that has placed a satellite in orbit has two alternatives: Either to burn up, or to cross through the thick atmospheric layers, open its parachutes, and land successfully. And our atmosphere is thick....

That was the time when I first realized that a good man who senses that he is called to struggle for some supreme truth must part with sentimentality. He must develop tactical principles of struggle and must be prepared to suffer heavy moral losses.

Imagine good in pursuit of evil, chasing evil, and coming across a barrier blocking the road. Evil runs right over the barrier, while good halts: The barrier is not [being] crossed even though it has no sign saying "No Entry!" It is so obedient, this good, so inhibited by ethical principles and morals, that it would run around the barrier shouting "Halt!" to the evil. The evil, of course, makes good its escape. And if this is so, it means that completely new methods of struggle are needed.

Much later the biologists gave me some wonderful illustrations. Let me describe some of them.

...One of the Lysenkoite scientists came to the editorial office of the botanical journal one day and submitted an article. In it she had extolled the president of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences sky-high, saying: "Lysenko is the Stalin of biological science." Reading this, some members of the editorial collegium rightaway got excited and pleased. Print it at once, they said. They knew that Stalin did not like it when anyone else was called Stalin, and such an article could have finally undermined Lysenko's power. But other members of the editorial collegium got indignant: "Under no circumstances! We have never used such methods of struggle." And they returned the article, warning the author of her mistake. This is how good acted.

And yet, goodness knows what the Lysenkoites did to those obedient professors, those living classics. One of Lysenko's main "scientific" theses was that there are species which engender other species "dialectically," "by leaps." This is how the cuckoo appears. "Has anyone," he asked the academicians in their velvet caps attending a session of the Academy of Sciences, "seen a cuckoo lay eggs?" No one had. "Very well then, let me tell you. It does not lay eggs. But where do little cuckoos come from?" General bewilderment again. "The little cuckoos are hatched by warblers. The warbler lays a small egg out of which, as a result of the unity of contradictions, by leaps (and here he uttered a selection of pseudodialectical terms), a little cuckoo is hatched...." Just as the warbler gives birth to the cuckoo, one tree--according to Lysenko--could sprout a different one. One of the Lysenkoites found an illustration to prove this thesis. He discovered a hornbeam which was sprouting a hazel and growing hazelnuts. General tumult--sensation! And all kinds of textbooks carried photographs of that hornbeam. But the geneticists, who rallied around the botanical journal headed by its editor Academician V.N. Sukachev, did not believe this "discovery." They sent their correspondent to the Caucasus. He solved this "puzzle" of nature. It appeared that the hornbeam's trunk was bifurcated. A long hazel growing right next to it, in the shadows, had bent under its own weight and had fallen right inside the bifurcation. A forester passed by, saw this, and did a bit of grafting. Time passed, the hazel became established, and started growing on the hornbeam's trunk. Then the forester cut off the hazel's original trunk, and it appeared as if it was growing right out of the hornbeam's "body."

Soon enough this material, exposing Lysenko's theory, was published in the botanical journal. It was followed by a whole series of similar articles. And the result? The journal's entire editorial collegium headed by Academician Sukachev was dismissed for "persecuting" Academician Lysenko. This is how evil acted. And it was always victorious because good could not behave properly in the enemy camp and always gave itself away. And it should not have done this.

[Zagalskaya] But can a good man conceal his true beliefs for a long time, prevaricate, pretend? After all, sooner or later a situation will develop which will either demand that he commit treason and betrayal or will force him to reveal himself, or at least to take a clear-cut and precise stand. Is it not immoral to lead a double life? Is such a stance not a justification for lack of principle?

[Dudintsev] Doubts about the legality of our actions hinder the cause; they do not eliminate evil itself, but only eliminate from the frontline of struggle one more soldier who could be fighting.

How, for example, did Nina Aleksandrovna Lebedeva work in the past? She declared that she was a supporter of Lysenko and, thanks to this, was given access to laboratories and hothouses. Every evening, however, when she returned home, she locked herself away from everyone and set up experiments in classical genetics.

Life, which is gathering pace and tension, is driving good and evil closer to the decisive clashes between them. And good must be victorious in these clashes. But it will succeed in this only if it is always superior to the adversary.

In my novel I cite a whole series of criteria which man can use to check himself and find out if he is suitable for the tactical actions of which we have spoken. So that, if you want a final and exhaustive answer, look for it in the novel.

[Zagalskaya] Vladimir Dmitriyevich, I would like to dwell on another question, directly linked with problems of morality. Can someone, by living an irreproachable and honest life, atone for one single sin committed in the past? Is it possible to erase the memory of the damage you have caused on one single occasion to someone else? Your novel's hero, Fedor Ivanovich, betrayed a talented investigator just that once. And that happened in his childhood. And was it actually a betrayal? That was an "honest, young pioneer's denunciation." But all through his life he tries to get rid of the guilt complex.... Generally speaking, the "eternal" theme in art concerns the atonement of sin and man's retribution for any unseemly acts he may have committed. It seems to me, however, that the court of memory and of conscience ought not to be so harsh as regards an era when people were often forced to make compromises, when they were defenseless in the face of circumstances (of which you yourself have spoken)....

[Dudintsev] Yes, a court does have an entire range of circumstances mitigating the sentence. A court may show leniency, for example, toward someone who has committed a crime in a state of diminished responsibility. The specific features of a particular era are, without any doubt, also one of the mitigating circumstances. But it is only mitigating in the eyes of an impassive court, or in your eyes as a detached observer. And there are no mitigating circumstances for the culprit. Come what may, a conscientious person will carry his sin to the grave. This is what constitutes the supreme wisdom and justice of nature: the fact that it has invented the machinery of conscience.

I may be rather too arrogant in trying to solve the question for the evil person too. How do evil people solve this problem? What do they feel? What takes place inside them? I don't know. It seems to me, however, that conscience is such a perfect and faultless machinery that it operates even inside an evil and immoral person. Have you not noticed that nasty people have a particular, a specific appearance? What happens to them, what is the force that sticks these faces on them?...

[Zagalskaya] Do you perceive any signs of Lysenkoism in our life today?

[Dudintsev] Unfortunately, I still do at times. First, there are enough phenomena indicating that Lysenko's confusion itself is still not fully overcome. I still encounter in some education establishments recurrences of "adaptation" of wheat from spring to winter and vice versa. This is either fraud or downright ignorance. Second, Lysenkoism as such is an isolated instance of the immoral practice of "forcefully" upholding one's point of view.

Lysenko is just one of the first people to be done the honor of giving his name to this disgusting phenomenon in science, which we still have to overcome. And not just in science, either. Just think: What is there at times behind prestige in art? What I mean is inflated prestige. We are still captives of the "merits" of many artists whose actual merit is insignificant. We deprave our own selves by means of such indulgence. We are afraid to tell the truth to some "inkgs with no clothes." And yet, according to the dictates of our society's democratic foundations, one of the main principles of life is openness, which means freedom to express different viewpoints and freedom to uphold one's views. Argument must be the main judge in any dispute. But alas, we still encounter pressure and the use of authority and various connections.

It is important that the confusion and mistakes of individual persons invested with power should not rise to the level of problems for the whole of society and should not be legitimized, as happened in Lysenko's case. And I do believe that the process of our life's democratization, which is now underway, will prevent the recurrence of similar confusions from the past.

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CSO: 1800/427

CULTURE

UZBEK POET PRAISES LEARNING, USE OF RUSSIAN

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 24 November 1986 carries on page 4 a 500-word article by Abdulla Oripov, Laureate of the Uzbek SSR State Khamza Prize, entitled "School of Maturity" in which he praises the benefits of a knowledge of Russian. He states that today the Russian language has emerged as one of those languages which have a highly important historical task to fulfill. It has attained its worldwide prestige through many factors, including its internal wealth and beauty. A knowledge of Russian provides access to the rivers of enlightenment of the seven climes and, in this sense, is a source of enormous spiritual wealth. Oripov asserts: "Our ideological adversaries abroad frequently repeat the notion that the peoples of Central Asia are being Russified. This is an ignorant notion that demonstrates their national narrowmindedness with regard to language. After all, why do many peoples of the world study English?" He notes that the time has come to improve the teaching of Russian in secondary schools, especially in rural areas, and concludes: "The Russian language, with all its wealth and power and its pertinence to our times, is a school of maturity for all of us."

NEW UZBEK PUBLISHING HOUSE FOR CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 22 November 1986 carries on page 4 a 500-word article by UzTAG correspondent E. Tukhvatullina entitled "Twinkle, 'Little Star'" in which she reports that the Yulduzcha Publishing House has been formed in Tashkent and will specialize in publishing artistic literature for children. Its director Gulchehra Nurullayeva said the house was formed to publish literature in Uzbek and Russian for children aged 2 to 14. The first book is in press and includes stories by Zoya Voskresenskaya and Oybek about Lenin. Patriotic and revolutionary subjects will occupy a prominent place in the thematic plan for 1987. During the year the house will publish works dedicated to the 70th anniversary of Great October, the centenary of V.I. Chapayev, and other jubilees. A series called "We Study Russian" will help children master the language of Lenin and a series on Russian classics and Soviet literature will familiarize them with the works of Pushkin, Tolstoy, Aleksin, and others. At the same time, the house will publish a series called "Uzbek Classical Literature." Among other planned publications are M. Shakhnovich's "Man's Revolt Against God," M. Osim's "The Birth of Algebra," and K. Dostmuhamedov's "Robots," as well as a collection of Russian, Uzbek, Hindi, and Lithuanian fables.

SOCIAL ISSUES

UKRAINIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANS FIGHT ALCOHOL, DRUGS, BURGLARIES

AU291530 Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 21 Dec 86 p 4

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian SSR Prosecutor's Office"]

[Text] The republic's Prosecutor's Office has examined the progress made in implementing legislation aimed at overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism, at eradicating moonshining, as well as at intensifying the struggle against drug addiction and burglaries.

The examination has shown that the steps consistently taken to implement decisions adopted by the party and the government to eradicate these negative phenomena, and the wide application of legal measures to influence violators, have had a favorable effect on the state of the struggle against criminality and have strengthened law and order. In the republic the number of crimes, including those committed under the influence of alcohol or drugs, has dropped, and losses in working time, as well as the level of accidents in production caused by drunkenness, have somewhat subsided.

At the same time the spot checks carried out in Zhitomir, Vinnitsa, Voroshilovgrad, Rovno, Donetsk, Khmel'nitsk, Chernigov, and some other oblasts, as well as in Kiev, have shown that the Soviets of people's deputies and law-and-order organs have still not achieved a radical turning point in this work. Many leaders of enterprise, organizations, kolkhozes, and sovkhoses do not wage a resolute and uncompromising struggle against drunkenness in production. Gross infringements of regulations for trade in alcoholic beverages still have not been eradicated, and the State Trade inspectorate does not make full use of its ability to eliminate these offenses. State and public organs have not eliminated formalism in coordinating their activities.

In some cities and rayons of Odessa, Donetsk, Dnepropetrovsk, Kharkov, and Cherkassy Oblasts internal affairs organs, health services, general-education, vocational, and technical schools, and commissions of local Soviet executive committees cooperate poorly in exposing persons who use drugs for non-medical purposes. A significant number of persons registered as chronic alcoholics and drug addicts evade treatment.

In a number of localities, particularly in Zakarpatskaya and Lvov Oblasts, as well as in Kiev city, adequate efforts have not been made to check and prevent burglaries. Alarm systems are being installed too slowly. In oblast centers,

in some cities and rayons, the efficiency of specialized voluntary people's squads is poor. Poor use has been made of housing operation offices, street and house committees to prevent burglaries. Also shortcomings in the activity of internal affairs organs hamper the disclosure and prevention of these crimes.

These issues were examined at a coordinating conference which has obligated leaders of law and order organs to eliminate the shortcomings noted, to take organizational and practical measures to raise the level of the entire work, and to concentrate the main efforts on comprehensive measures carried out jointly with law and order organs, the Soviets of people's deputies, and labor collectives, and to widely engage public representatives in preventing these negative phenomena.

Law and order organs have been instructed to increase the personal responsibility of functionaries for the sector in their charge, to coordinate better the work of subordinated organs with public organizations, to tighten supervision and control over the observance of the valid legislation for intensifying the struggle against drunkenness, drug addiction, theft and burglary, and for eliminating moonshining. It is essential to increase the role of commissions set up under local Soviets, at enterprises, institutions, and organizations to fight drunkenness, to carry out more frequent checks on compliance with anti-alcoholic legislation, and to more frequently listen to accounts of these issues by leaders. More vigorous efforts have to be made to disclose the sources of raw material for moonshining purposes, persons making moonshining equipment, as well as buying home-made alcoholic beverages.

The attention of the republic's preliminary inquest and investigation organs and courts has been called to the need to most strictly observe legality in investigating and examining such cases in courts. Instructions have been given to examine not only criminal but also civil cases and administrative materials which deal with drunkenness or the use of drugs for non-medical purposes at field court sessions.

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CSO: 1811/014

SOCIAL ISSUES

KAZAKH WOMAN DEPLORES NATIONALIST MANIFESTATIONS

PM051525 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 24 Feb 87 p 6

[Article by Manat Akhmedova, welder at the Alma-Ata Housing Construction Combine and deputy to the 27th CPSU Congress: "My Family, My Wealth"]

[Text] Alma-Ata--Last fall I visited France with a trade union delegation. Our hosts wanted to know everything about our country, about each one of us, and meticulously questioned me about my family. They were amazed that I, a Kazakh, had a Russian husband--Nikolay Khalkov. They were amazed that he is a design engineer, and I am an ordinary worker. I objected: Not an ordinary worker, a welder in a team of installation workers. There is only one other female welder in our combine, all the rest are men. And my link has another 17 male welders. They asked if I had any children. Of course, two daughters. The elder is Natalya, the younger Zhanat. And what languages do the daughters speak? Both Russian and Kazakh. Natalya also speaks French. She is studying at the Foreign Language Institute. "Oh, you have an international family," the French comrades expressed their pleasure. I was pleased to tell them that my team is also international--Kazakhs, Russians, Ukrainians, Uzbeks, Germans, Uigurs. And I spoke proudly of the virgin lands, the international planet of 100 languages.

And today I am prepared to repeat everything that I said--word for word. Today, however, they would also ask me some new questions, some of them probably tricky. About the December incidents in my republic's capital, in connection with which the West made so much ill-intentioned noise.

Well, we ourselves have still to find an exhaustive answer, although we definitely know one thing: That which happened in Alma-Ata is an anguish common to all of us Soviet people. And a lesson! Not so long ago the newspaper VECHERNYAYA ALMA-ATA published a collective letter signed by M. Aytkhozhin, president of the Kazakh SSR Academy of Sciences; A. Ashimov, people's artist of the USSR; Kh. Bekkhozhin, people's writer of Kazakhstan; G. Dikhanbayeva, seamstress at the Yu. Gagarin Production Association and USSR Supreme Soviet deputy; poet G. Kairbekov; and Ye. Serkebayev, people's artist of the USSR. My own signature is also appended to this letter. First of all, we categorically declared that the handful of people who succumbed to the nationalists' provocations have no right at all to speak on behalf of the Kazakh people. Our Soviet reality is incompatible with any displays of nationalism, chauvinism, or national limitation and exclusiveness. The bitter

lesson of the event makes it incumbent upon all of us--parents and teachers, Communists and Komsomol members, leaders, veterans, and the creative intelligentsia--to look even more deeply and even more thoroughly into the process taking place among young people, protect them from rash steps and mistakes, and help them acquire civic maturity and take the correct stance of patriots and internationalists in life.

The 27th Party Congress had something new to say about the development of national relations in our multilingual country, issuing a call to adhere unwaveringly to Lenin's wise behests, to apply them creatively under the new conditions, and to be extremely careful and principled in national relations. It was no accident that these two words--careful and principled--appeared next to each other in the political report to the congress. After all, here, just as in all other spheres of life, we deceived ourselves for many years on end, pretending that everything was in order and there were no problems. But the problems did and do exist, they must be perceived and assessed in a principled fashion so as to eliminate them sensibly. This is how I understood the new propositions on the nationalities question, made at the recent CPSU Central Committee January Plenum, and primarily in the report. They state bluntly that the mistakes allowed to occur in the sphere of national relations and their manifestations had remained in the background, and it was not considered acceptable to talk about them. This resulted in negative consequences, which we now have to tackle.

Indeed, what other consequences could have been brought about by some actions which, in my view, are downright instigations of national exclusiveness and dissension? For example, Alma-Ata built the luxurious Yer-tostyk kindergarten. For Kazakh children only! The local newspaper promptly carried an enthusiastic article to mark the occasion. "Welcome to Yer-tostyk!" but who was to benefit from this "welcome?" Children being artificially isolated and doomed to ignorance of the Russian language? I, just like all Kazakhs, am a patriot where my native Kazakh language is concerned. But I would not send my daughters to Yer-tostyk. And by the way, the children there are mainly those of parents holding high-ranking office.

And yet a kindergarten is also a family, the only difference being that it is a collective family. And some serious thought must be given also to this collective family in the context of the recent incidents.

The party and the government have always placed high hopes on women. They have given them powers, too. The first women's councils came into being right after the October Revolution. It was they who headed the struggle against illiteracy, homelessness, and starvation. Women's councils in all republics have always been multinational. During the Great Patriotic war, the Kazakh women--whose men had gone to war--welcomed into their homes and gave shelter to women, children, and old people from the Ukraine, Belorussia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Moldavia, and Russia. In those hard years, the women's councils in Kazakhstan took over the concern for soldiers' children and evacuated families.... And after the war, the women's councils somehow imperceptibly disbanded. Here I am, for example, a contemporary of the victory over fascism, and I have no memory of them.

The 27th CPSU Congress called on us to revive this beneficial tradition at this very point in time, at this qualitatively new stage in society's development. We women-delegates to the congress heard and discussed this suggestion with particular emotion and the understanding that it was also a reproach to us for having surrendered certain positions.

No, not as regards our own self-assertion. We have been more than successful in this respect. If anything, we have dangerously swept some things aside and lost much in this tempering process of emancipation. The words "fragmentation" and "breakdown in communications" acquire an increasingly specific and alarming meaning. And did the first alarming signals not originate in the family? Some supermancipated women, in their all-or-nothing desire to conquer all kinds of summits, to catch up and overtake all, at times demolish along the way everything that hinders a victorious ascent. And primarily their own family. They are unwilling to "waste" their valuable time on the home, on housekeeping, on children, on husbands! There is another and equally dangerous type of "protectress of home and hearth"--the woman urging and "inspiring" her husband to scrounge, to bring things home, to grow richer without aversion to any of the means used. And all this is allegedly for the children's sake. Without pausing to think that in this way she corrupts and perverts them, alienating them from people.

Is it possible that we neither knew nor saw all this? Of course we knew and saw. And yet, we carried on expressing our shared amazement: Why is the divorce rate rising? Why are the children's homes not empty in our peaceful time? Why are there so many problem children? Why do well-fed and prosperous children succumb to the bad influence of hooligans, petty thieves, nationalists, and instigators? The split in the family, in the primary cell, cannot be painless for society or the growing generation. Our children look up to us.

What shook me more than anything else during those December days was the fact that there were quite a few girls among the aggressive crowd. They "self-asserted" themselves as much as possible, wielding clubs and trying to outshout the boys and any grown-ups who attempted to talk to them.

One of the first to say something sensible was Roza Tazhibayevna Baglanova, people's artist of the USSR and veteran of the Great Patriotic War. Since she lives nearby, she literally ran into the square where small groups of students had gathered to warn them against any rash steps and the poisoned arrows of nationalism. With her creative work and her entire life, Baglanova has made a worthy contribution to the sacred cause of consolidating the brotherhood of the USSR peoples. The actress has won quite a few government awards. She considers that the most precious among them are the Order of Lenin, two medals "For Combat Merit," and the Order of Friendship of the Peoples. The young Kazakh singer Baglanova was a soloist with the famous Gaukhar-khanum group, which was one of the first to tour the front during the grim days of the Great Patriotic War.

It is probably impossible to find a single person in the republic who has not heard of Roza Baglanova. And those in the square immediately recognized her, made way for her. "Aynalain!" she said, weeping, and embraced the kids.

"Children, why are you disgracing your parents, why are you disgracing our republic?" "We are Kazakhs," a girl in a red fox-fur hat shouted in anger. "We've come here on behalf of the Kazakh people!" "Little fool," Roza Tazhibayevna said sadly. "We--this means the Soviet people. When the fascists were killing us they did not bother to ask whether you were Kazakh or Russian. They wanted to destroy the Soviet people. May a time, instead of giving a concert, I was in the thick of the battle and had to pull Kazakhs, Russians, Uzbeks, and Georgians away from enemy fire. How about you, would you have saved only the Kazakh wounded?" The girl became embarrassed and hid behind other people's backs.

Roza Tazhibayevna sincerely regrets that previously she had spent little time in frank conversation with young people and had not tried to influence their souls. Now that the thunder has pealed, so to speak, many masters of art and writers have made their way to students' lecture halls and hostels. Some creative unions have even managed to report already: Such and such a number have been sent to give talks.... But one-shot trips to institutes or workers' hostels by masters of art or party officials will make no fundamental difference.

In our combine, for example, the young people's hostel houses 500 persons, but its organizational structure makes provision for just one (?) teacher-educator. In the course of my voluntary work I have occasion to meet people from various professions, including masters of the arts. Artists, be they young or well-established, often complain that there is not enough work in shows, there are no parts for them, and say that they are ashamed to draw their salary. Why should party committees not give some thought to "topping up the work load" of artists with the extremely necessary work with young people in these hostels? After all, it can be definitely said in advance that this would benefit both sides. The artists--and not just the young ones, either--would gain knowledge of the real problems of life and would realize the need to be more seriously concerned with political self-education. It seems to me that the problem of efficient spiritual ties between the artistic intelligentsia and the working class is also topical for other republics. Just open your eyes and see the distance separating the students and the working youth in one and the same city! And yet, the majority of students will enter production after graduating from the VUZ, while many workers are preparing to enter VUZ's. Does this not provide a ground for permanent contacts? But who will bring them together?

The sociopolitical practice introduced in all VUZ's--or at least in Alma-Ata's VUZ's--is yet to become a reliable instrument for civic education because, as a rule, it is not backed by actual deeds. After all, students must be taught to apply their knowledge in practice. They must be taught the habits of organizational and propaganda work. They must be taught to engage in discussions. If some of the VUZ seminars on social sciences were to be held at our housing construction combine, the workers, communists, and Komsomol members would be eager to take part, and I can assure you that, if necessary, they would manage to produce convincing arguments to put the "floating" students on the right course. The family of workers is capable of both educating itself and educating others.

Problems of young people's international patriotic education, primarily in the family, were the focus of discussions at the recent Second Kazakh Women's Congress. "We are also to blame for what happened," M. Shigayeva, member of the Committee of Soviet Women and professor at the Kazakh State University, said on our behalf. Everything begins with the family. The woman is the family's moral center, its heart. Not a single really loving mother is likely to use words, let alone personal example, to introduce in her children's awareness any poisonous ideas about national divisions among people in our society, and not only because this is prohibited by law. She cannot fail to realize that her children's future, her children's happiness depends on the reliable unity of the USSR fraternal republics. The woman is the spiritual center, the heart of the united family of our country's peoples. This is why our congress unanimously resolved: Women and women's councils can and must be more actively involved in the process of the international and patriotic education of working people and youth. We women can achieve much.

The name of Kaziza Kenesbayeva, machine operator from Kokchetav Oblast in the virgin lands, is widely known in our republic. In recognition of her innovations in labor, the grain-grower was recently awarded the USSR State Prize. Here is Kenesbayeva's statement to the Committee for Lenin and USSR State Prizes: "I am boundlessly grateful to the Communist Party and the Soviet Government for their high appraisal of my modest labor. I ask that the 1986 USSR State Prize awarded to me be credited to the Soviet Peace Fund. Because the most precious thing for us Soviet people is peace throughout the world." Is this not a typical example of Soviet people's desire to strengthen with their own labor the motherland's might and, therefore, the cause of peace!

Ordinary people in other countries, including capitalist countries, are today worried about their future and want peace. I recall the meetings in France. No matter what the audience was, there inevitably developed a conversation about the Great Patriotic War, the Resistance, and today's nuclear threat. Frenchmen are very proud that they were our allies in the struggle against fascism during World War II. And progressive France today supports the principled course of the CPSU and the Soviet Government for mankind's nuclear-free future. "We very much rely on you," we were told by women in the Paris suburb of Val-de-Marne. I described all this to young people in Alma-Ata, in workers' hostels. They understand the entire complexity of the international situation, they understand what a great responsibility is borne in this situation by every Soviet person, they understand their own responsibility. In order to defend the fatherland from the intrigues by militarists at a moment's notice, in order to justify the hopes of the human family and the planet Earth, today the USSR must be economically powerful and monolithically united, as it was at all the crucial historic stages of the world's first Soviet state.

Work has now been launched in the republic by the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Commission for National and Inter-nation Relations, which includes party officials, scientists, masters of art, and public figures. Of course, the deep-rooted causes of the incidents in Alma-Ata will be revealed. But here is something that already seems clear to me: There were grave omissions in ideological education work among young people, there was an

unhealthy atmosphere in the republic which engendered negative phenomena in the economy and demoralized people's souls. Lofty words were spoken publicly, while protectionism, toadyism, and false reporting were flourishing in real life, generating skepticism, lack of faith, and indifference. Many people lost their civic personality and became petty in this atmosphere.

Let us look back on the history of our multinational state. Always, and at all stages, our country's peoples, large and small, have rallied and mobilized like a single family of workers for large-scale and truly historic deeds. That is how it was in October and after it, when the sons and daughters of all our peoples, beneath the banner of the Internationale, worked and fought to establish Soviet rule. During the time of collectivization and industrialization, when joint Stakhanovite labor not only laid the foundations of the socialist economy but also brought about genuine equality of the Soviet peoples, many of which were caught by the revolution in a state of underdevelopment. The Great Patriotic War became a test of the durability of the country's national unity, and we all passed that test with honor. The restoration of the national economy--our generation recalls how all republics jointly and selflessly helped the regions that had suffered from the fascist invasion. Then came the virgin lands, this genuine feat by the whole people which was accomplished also on our Kazakh soil. The shared anguish of Chernobyl.... The construction site of the century--the Baykal-Amur Main Railroad. At times when the fate of the whole state is determined as a universal cause, we are always together--all our wealth is sacrificed at the altar of our common fatherland.

And so is the present not just such a time for the utmost unification of all peoples and nations in the country? Acceleration, restructuring--these terms are not only on everyone's lips today, they also govern all our deeds and the daily life of labor collectives. Is this revolutionary course taken by our party today not the greatest common cause, which ought to fuse the efforts by all of us Soviet people, regardless of age or party membership, let alone national affiliation! This course is patriotic and, at the same time, international, its successful implementation is vitally important for the whole of society, and this means for each and every one of us, no matter where he lives or what language he speaks. Now we must speak one common language--the language of restructuring and acceleration, the language of specific deeds.

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CSO: 1830/341

SOCIAL ISSUES

TASHKENT OPIUM RING EXPOSED

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 2 November 1986 carries on page 4 a 1,700-word article by UzTAG correspondent T. Dagji entitled "Drug Addicts" in which he notes that action is being taken in the republic to fight drug addiction by destroying poppy fields, closing down networks of opium distribution, severely punishing sellers, and sending addicts away for treatment. Early in 1986 Tashkent police received two letters regarding gatherings of suspicious people in the apartment of Viktor Shevlyakov on Chinkent Street. In collecting background information the police learned that Shevlyakov was born in 1950, worked as a machinist's aide at the Tashkent Department of the Central Asian Railroad, and was nicknamed "Steam Engine." When the police came to his apartment to ask questions they found a syringe and seven packets of opium on his table. Two foreigners in his apartment at the time claimed they had no connection with the narcotics. Shevlyakov backed up their story and said the syringe and opium belonged to him. Investigators were unable to determine whether the foreigners had ensnared Shevlyakov or vice-versa, but they did learn that the packets of opium (each packet contains 0.4-0.5 grams, costs 25 rubles, and is referred to as a "chek") were obtained by a person known as "The Hare."

Police soon learned the true identity of "The Hare." He was a 39-year old criminal named Vadim Zaitov, with four prior convictions for possession of narcotics and theft. The "cheks" he had sold to Shevlyakov each weighed 0.1-0.15 grams, which meant that he was reducing the amount of opium in each packet without telling his customers. Nearly every night Zaitov went to the Kazakhstan Movie Theater and walked slowly down the aisle with a rolled up newspaper in his hand. He collected the money in his newspaper, but did not carry the opium on him. Nonetheless, when the audience was leaving after the show he somehow distributed the packets to the addicts in a few seconds. Later, it was learned that he went across the street and got the opium from a young girl named Svetlana Raisheva. A police team arrested Zaitov and his customers on 23 February, and Raisheva at a later date. The Lenin Rayon People's Court of Tashkent sentenced Shevlyakov to three years, Zaitov to six years, and Raisheva to two years in prison.

The same police team, acting on a tip, raided a poppy field on the territory of Khaskavo Sovkhoz in Kalinin Rayon. Various local officials,

including representatives of the Kalinin Raykom and the sovkhos partkom, took part in the raid. They found a well-irrigated and cultivated field guarded by vicious dogs. Interspersed with tomatoes and eggplants were rows of poppies grown to a height of 100-120 cm. In all, the poppies occupied 2,343 square meters. The team pulled up the poppies and burned them in piles. It also collected materials for criminal charges against Sunnat Sodiqov who lived with his children in a trailer on the property. Born in 1928 and a party member since 1957 Sodiqov claimed he knew nothing about the poppies and the field was tended by a neighbor who had died. Without a trial it is impossible to judge whether the poppies belonged to Sodiqov, but his actions as a citizen and a communist must be questioned because minimally he concealed this crime.

UZBEK INTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ON SOVIET POLICE DAY

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 8 November 1986 carries on page 4 a 1,300-word article by U. Rahimov, Uzbek SSR Minister of Internal Affairs, entitled "Guardians of Peace" in which he comments on police trends in conjunction with Soviet Police Day. Rahimov notes that in recent years people of high moral character, political conscience, and organizational ability, including many representatives of labor collectives, have been drawn to police work. In addition, the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs has sent to work in Uzbekistan dozens of specialists from various regions of the country. Such measures have helped to strengthen the personnel of the ministry and its departments. The republic ministry has taken steps to improve the quality of workers in criminal investigation, preservation of public order, and anti-theft sectors, and to provide them with the latest technology and methodology used in police science.

Recent investigations have exposed several criminal operations at the State Agroindustrial Committee, Uzbekbirlashuv, and Ministries of Light Industry and Motor Transport. Police exposed a group of employees of the Shakhrisabz Cotton Cleaning plant and various farms that cheated the state out of 5 million rubles in cotton revenues. Over 2.5 million rubles worth of money and goods were confiscated from these criminals. Police also arrested several trade workers who sold bootleg vodka made from 500 liters of stolen alcohol. Since the beginning of 1986, 11 million rubles worth of money and goods have been confiscated from people guilty of deception, bribe-taking, and speculation. Republic police will continue to combat bribe-taking, speculation, unearned income, violations of public order, alcoholism, and drunkenness.

UZBEKS MUST IMPROVE WORK WITH CITIZENS' COMPLAINTS

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 4 November 1986 carries on page 1 a 1,100-word lead editorial entitled "People Come to the Reception Room" which states that officials of some oblast party and soviet organs, ministries, and agencies pay insufficient attention to receiving citizens and working with their petitions and complaints. Analysis of the letters reaching the newspaper shows that certain leaders have an unprincipled, rude, or purely formal approach to this work. Leaders of party, soviet, and economic organs must take steps against officials who take a formal or bureaucratic approach to citizens' problems or who violate regulations in this field. Officials must pay attention to criticism and warnings about shortcomings and abuse of position, investigate complaints, and send out representatives to take steps to resolve them. They must set convenient hours for receiving citizens, eliminate bureaucratic attitudes, paperwork, procrastination, and neglect, and take steps to reduce the number of repeated complaints. Party organizations must educate cadres to have a respectful regard for workers and greater responsibility for resolving their problems. It is necessary to create a healthy moral and psychological climate in labor collectives so that open criticism can be nurtured and the practice of writing anonymous and often slanderous letters can be halted.

UZBEK POLICE USE VIDEO CAMERA TO CATCH THIEVES

[Editorial Report] Tashkent SOVET OZBEKISTONI in Uzbek on 13 November 1986 carries on page 4 a 400-word article by UzTAG correspondent V. Pruger entitled "The Path to Jail was on a Carpet" in which he reports that an investigative team headed by A. Ubaydullayev, deputy chief of the Tashkent Oblast Administration for Combatting Speculation and Theft of Socialist Property, broke up a criminal operation at the Almalyk Carpet Factory. Noting that carpets without any defect at all were being discarded at the factory the team used a secret video camera to determine who was removing the carpets and how they were being sold, and to get irrefutable evidence for the court. The criminal group comprised 28 people and included factory director Siddiqov, chief accountant Rizhkova, and warehouse directors Khaydarova and Bobojonov, who made 200,000 rubles in two years. In addition there were 18 store leaders in three oblasts who experienced little difficulty in finding people who wanted to buy the stolen goods. Although the guilty were punished and the state's losses recovered through confiscation of their property, there are many people who should seriously reflect on the bitter lesson learned by the Almalyk criminals.

9439

CSO: 1830/360

REGIONAL ISSUES

MOLDAVIAN HOUSING SITUATION PROFILED

Housing Legislation Violations Revealed

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 29 Mar 86 p 4

[Article by Novomir Limonov: "Two Blank Forms: A Judicial Essay"]

[Text] The corridor in the workers' communal residence is carpeted with a simple runner, shoes are neatly arranged next to each door. Clean and warm. Families live here: 20 doors -- and 8 stove burners in the kitchen; they cook by turns and there is one WC and one bathroom for everyone. The children are playing table hockey on the floor in the corridor. The game is fun, but they don't make a racket and cry out only in whispers -- this is, after all, a communal residence building.

Four people live behind the door number "5", in 18 square meters, and grandmother has just arrived from the countryside. Two sofas, a cupboard, a baby carriage, a table, a television set, and a zinc-coated tub, in which the baby is having a bath. Four-month old Anna smiles from her grandmother's arms; her belongings are drying in confusion all around the room. Despite this density of population and things per square meter, it is also clean here, even cozy and, in its own way, cheerful.

After returning to Moscow, I had thought continuously about this room in the communal residence, about Larisa's eyes, big like olives, always alert and full of love, and about the smile on the baby's face, and I have thought about the meaning of the word, home. No, home is not a matter of square meters; it is something like what surrounds Larissa. This sprang to mind when she phoned from the station in Moscow and said that she had brought me a letter. She could deliver it more quickly herself by train. At the time, I calmly thought: the letter would also reach me by mail, why leave the baby? But it was only here, in the communal residence, that I understand: this home is Larisa herself, and it is in trouble...

"And so", I asked, looking around the room, "the procuracy investigator came here? When was this?"

"On 28 August, at 0630."

From the letter which P. Koval had sent to the editorial offices: "I was relaxing after the night shift. My wife was in the last stages of pregnancy, and with high blood pressure, as she suffers from hypertension. At 0630, there was a knock on our door. Four men were standing in the corridor. They introduced themselves: senior investigator Sandu from the procuracy, a militia captain whose name I don't recall, and two others (who had no laces in their shoes and smelled like chronic alcoholics) -- the witnesses. Sandu started to conduct a search in the room, then he suggested that I get myself together and come along with him. They put me in a preliminary detention cell (KPZ), where they kept me for 7 days and, during this time, nobody was even interested in whether I was alive. Then they transferred me to prison. After 2 weeks, investigator Sandu came and began to interrogate me about whom I had given a bribe to, for my apartment. The whole time, I asked the investigator, and also wrote to the Beltsy city procuracy asking for a confrontation with the person to whom, in their opinion, I had given a bribe. At the end of a month, investigator Sandu visited me in prison for a second time and, to my question about the bribe, answered: "Yes, we know that you didn't give anything to anybody". Why then did they put me in jail? He answered: "It wasn't me that put you here, but the procuracy".

Having obtained my written promise not to leave the area, they let me go and then, on 19 November, they took me to court, where they accused me of inducing an official to commit a crime and sentenced me to a year of compulsory labor at national economic construction projects. The Moldavian SSR Supreme Court upheld this sentence."

After returning from my trip, I made a phone call to Beltsy. This was on 4 March. The duty person at the communal residence went up to the second floor and Larisa came to the telephone: Petr Koval is leaving tomorrow morning at 0500 for the place which the militia organs have designated for him to serve his sentence. He will go without any escort. He has simply purchased a bus ticket and put a copy of the sentence in his pocket. He has nine months left. (When we were saying our goodbyes, Petr said: "The important thing is not these 9 months. I'll work there -- look at my hands. But, what I need to know is why they have disgraced me and why they are dragging me away from my wife and children.")

Now, when Koval is performing this compulsory labor, I must tell the reader how all this happened.

I should probably begin with Petr Prokopyevich Koval as a person, with certain episodes from his life. And even, perhaps, with a portrait of him.

So: He is a man of 44 years, with a face of the kind they put on medals, about 1.87 meters tall and weighing about 100 kilograms. And inside, there is a softness of character, a good nature, a trustfulness. And even a sort of aloofness from anything that doesn't have to do with gas and diesel motors, road vehicles, and, generally, the equipment with which he works. And he really knows motor vehicles. He bought a Zaporozhets that had been written off and fixed it up -- it ran as it should have. Then this was replaced by a

Moskvich -- the automobile. And again he fixed it up. But there is one other thing that has always excited him -- his family. When talk turns to this subject, it is as if he is filled with an inner light. It's the same way with Larisa when she looks at her husband.

His first marriage was "unsuccessful". This, incidentally, is putting it mildly. His son now is already a second-year student in vocational technical school, has received special mentions and certificates for his studies, and has just passed his driver's license exam. But a fact remains a fact: he and the four-year old Andrey were left alone, just the two of them, in room 5 of the construction workers' communal residence. It was he who walked the boy to kindergarten, who did the washing and taught his son the ABC's, who and took him when he started first grade -- two males, surrounded by mothers. For the sake of his son, Petr gave up his bus and started to work in the road building administration, where there was only one shift, so that he could do the many things at home in the evening.

During these years, the boy's mother did not once remember either her son's birthday or any other events in her former family. There are such women and mothers. They are rare, but they exist. Fortunately for us, men, there are nevertheless more of the others. "After 4 years, in 1977," Koval wrote the editors, I met a woman who became a mother and friend to my son and a wife and true life's companion to me. We have lived together for 8 years. During the time of our joint life, we had no children...".

I am describing the background leading up to the basic events so that it will be clear whose door it was that senior procuracy inspector Sandu opened early in the morning with his so-strange witnesses. There was a family behind this door, and I want to write this word -- FAMILY -- in capital letters: Larisa was 27, Petr -- 43, and Andrey -- 16. This was a happy family, bound all the more closely together by its various, common difficulties, and, moreover, they were expecting the birth of a child, after having spent 8 years of hoping.

Then I asked Jurist First-Class Sandu, in the presence of the city's new procurator, Ye. Russu, whether it had been absolutely necessary to arrive with a search warrant at this home at daybreak and to take along, as witnesses, people who had been sentenced to 15 days confinement specifically, as I determined, for hooliganism within their own families. Petr Koval later got a very close look at them while in the investigative isolation unit. It turned out that Sandu's actions were dictated by the interests of the law and that he chose witnesses from outside so as not to disturb the people in the communal housing before the beginning of the working day. Sandu, it is true, didn't recollect that he took his witnesses from the cells. But I had confirmed this fact by means of the duty log in the city militia department and this is why I listened with patience, but without interest of any kind, to the experienced jurist's arguments in justification of the alleged legality of his actions.

But, I'll go on with the story. The Koval family had already been in line for a cooperative apartment for several years. Every year, they registered their name in the waiting list. The line moved ahead, but slowly, and probably they would have had to wait about another 7 or 8 years. And suddenly, good fortune loomed up before them, so good that Petr couldn't even believe it. He ran

into a cousin, who was carrying around an authorization to receive an apartment. They had given his wife the apartment at work. And his own turn was also just about to come up on the waiting list for a cooperative apartment, in which the cousin was himself registered. "And are you suffering so? Let's go to the city soviet executive committee and ask if, perhaps, they will put you there instead of me. Indeed, we have the same last name, Koval."

The two cousins set out at once for Room No. 80 of the city soviet executive committee, where the Administration for Housing and the Municipal Economy's senior engineer in charge of recording and distributing cooperative apartments, V. Babeshko, told them that it would seem to be possible to substitute relatives in the list, but that he would just check with a legal expert. Several days later a post card came to the communal residence: Please stop by Room No. 80. It turns out that everything is possible, said Babeshko. Fill out the papers and deposit 4,600 rubles, the first payment, with the cashier. And there's one more thing: it is necessary to update your documents -- your reference from your place of work and certification of your average earnings. Incidentally, it would even be better not to bring a reference, but simply two blank forms and he, Babeshko, would fill them out himself.

Petr Koval rushed to the bookkeeping office at Motor Column No. 2810, explained everything to Zhardan, the chief bookkeeper, and Vasilii Trofimovich gave him a blank form with a round seal. What's necessary is necessary. The deputy office chief, Anastasiya Mikhaylovna Foka also gave him a blank with the stamp AK-2810 -- Re: Apartment. Everyone has always regarded the driver Petr Koval with sympathy and understanding. They knew of his difficult life, of his love of work and of his willingness on the job and, particularly with regard to an apartment, everybody there was happy for him. One more detail, it was necessary to deposit the 4,600 rubles for the first payment at once. His relatives helped, but the greater part was provided by people with whom he had worked at one time or another. And nobody would take a receipt, even though Koval warned them that he would not be able return it quickly. And some people even went into debt themselves for Koval's sake. After getting to know Petr, I think that I would have done this too.

And meanwhile, V.I. Babeshko, the city soviet executive committee worker, accomplished a whole series of official forgeries. In the 1973 waiting list of registered applicants, he changed "Koval, G.I." to "Koval, P.P." and he also filled out the forms himself and then signed them for the directors and personnel of the motor column, dating them 1973 as well; the deputy chairman of the city soviet executive committee, V. Sharagov, approved all this.

Naturally, Babeshko destroyed the old papers, without having initiated Koval into the fine points of his official affairs. And why was it necessary for Koval to know all this? Later, his comrade at the motor column, Roman Sorokovskiy, was justifiably indignant: "Well, so a person gives a form that hasn't been filled out to the executive committee but, after all, he gave it to a responsible official. And now this person has become almost a criminal."

My assignment worked out in such a way that I arrived at the Beltsy city court only minutes before the opening of the 27th CPSU Congress itself, and all the

court's workers were sitting by a television set in a large room. I asked to see the criminal case of Babeshko and Koval and was reading it in an office of the secretariat. The speaker was set at full volume. Of course, I could not help turning my attention to the words of the CPSU Central Committee political report: "The democratic principles of justice, of equality of citizens before the law, and other guarantees which ensure protection of the interests of the state and of every citizen must be observed in the strictest way. In connection with this, it is necessary to decisively increase the role of the procuracy and to improve the work of the courts and the legal profession...".

I leafed through the criminal case and saw that the documents it contained had been done so crudely that there was no need for any sort of handwriting expertise. Everything is obvious at a mere glance. It should all the more be clear to experienced people from the republic procuracy and court system. In this regard, I can provide only a brief understanding or, so to say, food for thought. And for this purpose, I propose to compare certain events from the private life of the driver Petr Koval with events in the city.

In the summer of last year, several commissions of the Moldavian CP Central Committee studied the question of whether apartments and plots of land are being allocated justly in various of the republic's cities, among them Beltsy. The results for this city were, as they say, not for nervous people: there were dozens of cases of illegally obtained apartments, of worker housing being allocated out of turn to management workers, and of apartment authorizations found to be invalid... And, on this premise, the newspaper SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIA, on 14 August, published a resolution of the Moldavian CP Central Committee Buro where, in particular, the first secretary of the Beltsy city party committee, Comrade V. M. Iovv, was severely criticized.

In October 1985, a meeting of the city party committee was convened in Beltsy. It discussed the Moldavian CP Central Committee Buro resolution and accepted its criticism as being justified. V. Sharagov, the first deputy chairman of the city soviet executive committee, was removed from his position and was given a party reprimand, and the attention of V. Molozhen, second secretary of the city party committee, was directed to the inadequacy of control being exercised over the activities of the service elements of the soviet executive committee. The newspaper KOMMUNIST reported that criminal charges of committing forgery are being brought against Housing and Municipal Services Administration (UZhKKh) senior engineer V. I. Babeshko.

In a word, steps were taken. But two months went by between 13 August and 8 October and, during these months, when, particularly in August, the very sharply worded resolution of the republic's central committee buro was on everybody's lips, another phrase, naturally, was also on the lips of everyone: and what is the procuracy doing about it?

But the city's procurator, Botnar, could not answer this direct question. It was only at the end of February that they showed me a summary report in the city soviet executive committee: the people's court had examined 47 cases involving evictions from illegally occupied apartments and declarations that earlier issued apartment authorizations were invalid, and work was being completed on the investigation and referral of another 6 cases to the people's

court. Later, the city prosecutor would present a statement concerning the apartment question in the paper KOMMUNIST, later they would also remove him, himself, from his job. However, all this would be later, while, in August...

In August, it was necessary to take immediate steps as a follow-up to the Moldavian SSR CP Central Committee buro's resolution. And these needed to appear to be as effective as possible. This is why senior procuracy inspector Sandu found it necessary to ruin the peaceful sleep of the Koval family. So look, we got him out of bed! We delivered him to the investigative isolation cells! He'll soon confess to bribery! Indeed, we have found 578 rubles in Babeshko's safe -- where did they come from, if not from Koval! He'll confess. Where can he go?

During his entire life, Koval had never come face to face with the Criminal Code, and then the custodians of the law trampled on his destiny with a whole chapter from this code, entitled: "Crimes Against Justice" -- consciously illegal arrest or detention; forced provision of testimony... So that now, painfully reviewing in mind what happened to Petr Koval, I write this essay in the firm conviction that the actions of prosecution workers Botnar and Sandu should be examined in light of the Criminal Code articles which comprise this chapter.

I by no means wish to justify Koval's actions with regard to these blank forms. He's not a child and should have understood that they could fall into evil hands. But also, indeed, the people who gave them to him were in an entirely official capacity. Where is the deputy office chief, Foka, and where is the chief bookkeeper, Zhardan? Where, finally, is the former deputy chairman of the city soviet executive committee, Sharagov? The law is mandatory for everyone--just as is the presumption of innocence.

The presumption of innocence has existed since the times of Roman law. It is the cornerstone of legal procedure and, in accordance with it, an accused person is presumed to be innocent until such time that his guilt is proven in accordance with procedures established by law. Even if he himself makes a slip in what he says -- and this happens.

However, from the very start, they approached Koval from a position of presumed guilt (and, indeed, such a term does not even exist in jurisprudence), and they continued to pursue this line all the way to the republic's Supreme Court. Law, in this case, instead of being law, became a fetish, an inanimate object from a cult ritual.

The judgment contains the following line: "The Court considers it necessary to reject the petition by repair brigade AK-2810 for transfer of Koval on parole to the collective...". And the collective, by the way, met together four times because of Koval. And nobody forced it to do this. They wrote to all instances of the court that he is a good comrade, modest, responsive, and efficient. There was never an occasion when he permitted himself to be late, much less absent. And he still has two minor children, his daughter Anya was born at the height of the investigation, a difficult birth, her mother still is not capable of working and, besides, is feeding the baby... His friends at work also asked that they allow Koval to serve his sentence at his own place

of employment, which, incidentally, is envisaged by Article 209 of the Moldavian SSR Criminal Code, or that they impose a fine of up to 100 rubles instead, which is also envisaged by this article.

I suppose that the people, who examined but did not take all these requests into account, were heartless in their treatment of him also because they argued approximately as follows: Well, what kind of sentence is this anyway -- one year, conditionally, and what's more, 3 months have already passed into history. And it didn't occur to anyone that Koval was walking around considering the sentence in his pocket to be not only an insult to himself, personally, but also an insult to the legal system, and to his trust in social justice.

Housing Legislation Violations Reviewed

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 10, 11 Oct 86

[Two-part serialized article by SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA special correspondent N. Limonov: "A Protest to the Procuracy"]

[10 Oct 86 p 3]

[Text] I was called on the phone by the former Beltsy city procurator, G. Botnar, who demanded in a harsh voice to know my home address and the rayon where I live. Grigoriy Afanasyevich had certainly not decided to cheer me up with a greeting from my native Moldavia. Rather, he intended to initiate a court case accusing me of defamation, i.e. of spreading information which defamed him, Botnar. And consequently, my assertion in the essay "Two Blank Forms" (SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA, 29 Mar 86) that prosecutor Botnar and senior investigator Sandu trampled on the destiny of a man and his family with an entire chapter from the Criminal Code, called "Crimes Against Justice", -- these words, used in an organ of the press, now threaten me, myself, with loss of freedom for a period of up to 3 years, or with corrective labor for a period up to 2 years, or with a fine from 100 to 300 rubles.

Comrade Botnar spoke heatedly and earnestly on the telephone. In half an hour, I succeeded only in squeezing one tactless question into his monologue.

"But isn't it true, Grigoriy Afanasyevich, that the procuracy party organization, which the city party committee buro directed 'to examine the activity of the procuracy as a whole and of its director and to provide a party evaluation', issued you a severe reprimand, to be placed in your party record?"

"Not to be put in my records, but simply a reprimand," Botnar corrected me, somewhat taken aback.

With apologies to the reader, I would like to recall our basic disagreements with the former procurator of the Moldavian city of Beltsy and what my earlier essay was about.

P. Koval, a driver with AK-2810, had lived for many years with his family in one room in a workers' communal residence and they were expecting their second child; then a hope suddenly appeared: a relative was prepared to give up his place on the waiting list for a cooperative apartment. "Just bring two blank forms from your work, and I will take care of all the formalities," said Babeshko, an engineer at the Administration of Housing and Municipal Services. The engineer took care of the formalities and Koval collected money from friends and relatives and paid in a deposit. But later it became clear that documents had been falsified. One version of what happened involving a bribe and a search of Koval's room was carried out at dawn, which, incidentally, turned up only a receipt for payment of the deposit. And the "witnesses" for this extremely delicate affair had been taken ...from the cells at the investigative isolation unit. Koval spent 7 days with them there without any charges being filed, and then was in prison for the remainder of a full 30 days. The charge of bribery was not proven but, instead, he was charged as an accomplice in the forgery of documents and was sentenced to one year of compulsory labor, to be performed at locations assigned by the organs of the militia for this purpose. The Moldavian SSR Supreme Court upheld the sentence.

My report did not include one detail. The wives of the convicted men, Koval and Babeshko, were given the personal effects of their husbands. I ask you to pay attention to who had what things. Koval's wife signed a receipt for "a Vostok brand watch, with a gold case and a black strap" (I later saw this watch: a yellow case -- not gold). Babeshko's wife receipted for "a Kessel brand watch, electronic, a wedding ring, a Cassio calculator in a case, 578 rubles, a maintenance registration for a Moskvich 412 automobile..." And Babeshko had done a deliberately crude job of falsifying the documents for Koval's apartment, as if specially so that the greenest militia school trainee would be able to detect that this was a forgery. And this leads to conjecture that Babeshko is not the key person in this business. For even now it is unknown precisely how many apartments were handled in violation of the law, so to say, under the table.

And so, Koval is serving out his sentence, the essay was published and the official replies arrived at the editorial offices.

CHAIRMAN OF THE MOLDAVIAN SSR SUPREME COURT, V. PUSHKASH;

"...From the materials of the case, it does not appear that there has been a violation of criminal process norms by inquiry, preliminary investigation, and court organs. On the basis of available evidence, Koval was justly convicted. The degree of punishment corresponds to the character of the offense and of information regarding the character of the guilty person. There is no basis for submitting an appeal with the aim of changing or amending this sentence."

S. SHUMEYKO, DEPUTY PROCURATOR OF THE MOLDAVIAN SSR;

"...Thus, no violations of legality have been permitted to occur in the investigation of this case... The conclusions of your correspondent, N. Limonov, in asserting that there were no grounds for bringing criminal charges against P. P. Koval do not correspond to reality. Other facts and

events which took place in the city of Beltsy are also presented in a distorted and tendentious way...

"Describing the incident which took place in the city of Beltsy, the author approaches exposure of one of our most pressing social questions -- solution of the housing problem -- in a clearly subjective and incompetent way. Only one conclusion can be drawn from the content of the article -- that, to obtain a place to live, all means are good, even including the one used by P.P. Koval. It is in just this connection that the correspondent confuses the readers, and this results in the population developing false views of the legally established system for recording, distributing and receiving living quarters. Besides this, he allowed himself to make an impermissible attack on procuracy workers G.A. Botnar and V.V. Sandu by casually raising the question of bringing criminal charges against them. We believe that the readers of your newspaper should be informed of the incorrect interpretation of the law on the part of your correspondent, N. Limonov."

V. IOVV, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE BELTSY CITY MOLDAVIAN CP COMMITTEE:

"...We believe that the facts set forth in this article do not fully correspond to reality. Those things which took place are described tendentiously. Describing the incident which occurred with V.I. Babeshko and P.P. Koval, the author approaches exposure of one of our most pressing social questions -- solution of the housing problem -- in a clearly subjective and incompetent way. Only one conclusion can be drawn from the content of the article --that, to obtain a place to live, according to Comrade N. S. Limonov, all means are good, even including the one used by P.P.Koval."

It must be admitted that the editorial offices have never received such unanimous disapproval, very likely during all the years that the paper has been in existence. The republic procuracy and the Beltsy city party committee are so alike in their conclusions, that they even express their thoughts with exactly the same words. And the same thing goes for their sentences.

If you believe the official responses from Moldavia, the author should never have taken pen in hand. Even more than this, even if he had doubts about the system of justice, he should not have defended a person who had committed a crime. But here is how, at the request of the editors, Doctor of Juridical Sciences O. P. Temushkin, an Honored Jurist of the RSFSR and a USSR Supreme Court department chief, commented on the preliminary investigation and, this means, on the official responses:

"All the faults found with the preliminary investigative organs in the judicial essay "Two Blank Forms", published by your paper, are justified. The recruitment as "witnesses" of persons being held under arrest for common hooliganism is clearly an illegal action. This should have been realized in advance of doing such a thing. Indeed, they were directly dependent upon the militia organs, but were supposed to fill the role of impartial observers who could later confirm that the search was carried out correctly, observing all rules stipulated by procedural standards, and that no attempts had been

permitted to find something that, in actuality, was not there. Usually, citizens who enjoy authority and the respect of those around them are asked to fulfill the functions of witnesses."

The detention of Koval, in general, directly contradicts the law, because this is an extreme measure. According to Article 104 of the Moldavian SSR Criminal Law Procedure Code (which corresponds to Article 122 of the RSFSR Law Procedure Code), detention can take place only in instances which are strictly limited by the law, and specifically: when a person is caught in the commission of a crime or immediately after one; when eye-witnesses, including victims, directly identify him as having committed a crime; and, finally, when obvious signs of a crime are detected on a suspected individual or on his clothing, in his possession, or in his home. But what were they looking for in Koval's case, and what did they find?

Koval didn't fall under a single one of these conditions. And the subsequent arrest of Koval was also illegal, inasmuch as he was accused of committing a crime, the prescribed punishment for which is deprivation of freedom for up to one year. All this provides a basis for the incontestible conclusion that this was done in order to frighten Koval and to force him to provide testimony favorable to the investigation.

I think that the city court also acted incorrectly when it turned down the labor collective's application to have Koval transferred to it on parole. Taking account of the personality and family situation of the defendant, it could have set a punishment which would not have entailed Koval's being torn away from his family, which needed his help.

The information on this case, received from the Moldavian SSR Supreme Court, also produced surprise within the USSR Supreme Court. Particularly the phrase: "From the materials of this case, it does not appear that there has been a violation of criminal process norms by inquiry and preliminary investigative organs." Only after we asked for a specific evaluation of the violations of processing norms that had been permitted to occur in this case did the chairman of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Court respond that an executive meeting had been held in connection with the essay "Two Blank Forms", at which "attention was turned to shortcomings and omissions permitted by the people's court and the court collegium in examining the criminal case of Koval and a principled evaluation was made of the circumstances of Koval's detention and of the conduct of a search in his residence."

We think that, with this, it is time to put a final period on our juridical argument with the republic's servants of Themis.

Let's move on to an assessment of events from a moral standpoint. Here is how our readers responded to the paper's report. The following are excerpts from letters which had the city of Beltsy as a return address:

"Many thanks for the article. For the first time, the central press has spoken directly about the unfavorable actions of the "city fathers". Of course, P.P. Koval is guilty, but he should have been punished in another way.

And the managers who are directly guilty in the machinations surrounding the apartments have not been given any kind of punishment."

"...One would think that the first secretary of the city party committee, Comrade Iovv, and the chairman of the city soviet executive committee, Comrade Molozhen, would hold their heads in their hands in the presence of such a mess. However, calm reigns, just as if this is how things should be, i.e. only an appearance is being created that shortcomings have been eliminated, an appearance that work has been restructured in light of the demands of the 27th CPSU Congress, V. SAVIN, Communist."

"...Since 1980, we, public-spirited citizens, have been revealing the squandering of state apartments by the city's administrative workers and, to this day, we have not been able to put a final end to the activities of housing law violators."

This letter, 11 typewritten pages long, is signed by Ye. Zakharova, Ye. Belina, O. Yerygina, A. Galyudenko, and Z. Boz -- former council chairmen of the house committees of such-and-such housing administrations or simply house committee representatives, also former, and all have city soviet executive committee certifications bearing such-and-such a number. "Former"-- because, the authors explain, their public activity was viewed as a thorn in the side of officials and they were gradually shunted aside from this activity. Accompanying the letter was a list of persons, mainly city management workers, who have repeatedly changed apartments and have moved into better designed homes.

However, V. Iovv's response ends with the following words:

"At the same time, the city party committee buro recognizes that work to eliminate the shortcomings uncovered in bringing necessary order to the matter of recording and allocating living quarters is not being carried out on a sufficiently timely basis and several wide-reaching and specific buro resolutions have been passed concerning these questions. However they are being implemented slowly and there is insufficient supervision of how they are being carried out."

But these words need to be deciphered. A great deal of intensive work may hide behind them and, even though it is admitted that this work is still not being carried out as efficiently as could be wished, it is nonetheless being carried out. But it is also possible that, behind these same words, there may be only an appearance of work. The list of malfeasance sent to the editors by the public-spirited citizens of the city of Beltsy has proven to be too long.

In short, it was necessary to travel once again to the Moldavian SSR and this time it was not a single question that summoned -- whether Koval's conviction was just or unjust, and even in the first essay this was not the most important thing -- Koval was being defended not at all for juridical reasons, but for moral ones. This time, it was a phenomenon of a social and public nature, reflected in this case, which prompted me to take to the road. And, it was the city party committee itself, or more precisely its documents, which

could help me in this. It was necessary to check what had been written in the official response against the decisions passed by the party buro in connection with the apartment question.

[11 Oct 86 p 3]

[Text] The city of Beltsy raised itself laboriously from the ruins, and now there is almost nothing to serve as a reminder that it was almost swept by the war.

"And, you know, they lived in the cellars. in the empty shells of buildings," says N. Bunchukov, the chairman of the city party committee, "When I came here in 1948 to work as secretary of the soviet executive committee, the committee members collected, as travelling expenses -- half a pood of potatoes..."

We were silent for a time. A picture from my childhood come to mind: My father brought me, my mother, and my sister to this city in a heated baggage car on a special train and our first apartment was entirely without windows and doors --you could see the blue sky all around you and when it rained they covered the whole place with some sort of oilcloths.

"But everything was, somehow, more certain, wasn't it, Nikolay Fomich?", I interrupted the pause. "There were fewer half-tones, weren't there, in evaluating behavior? But let's return to our list." And I continued to read it out: "M. G. Ranga, deputy chairman of the city soviet executive committee; D. B. Grossu, deputy general director of the wine and cognac association; P.A. Rodionov, director of the electrical equipment plant; N. A. Volk, director of the meat combine; V.I. Bilichuk, deputy general director of the Moldvinprom production association; T. Ya. Podprigora, people's judge..." She, by the way, is the one who passed sentence on Petr Koval for participating in an attempt to obtain an apartment illegally.

The list contained 31 names of city management workers. In recent years, the whole lot of them have moved into new, better-designed homes on Ulitsa Lenina, and the decisions of the city soviet executive committee to assign this housing to them were made not only without checking their living conditions, but also without completing the other document formalities on which other mere mortals spend a great deal of time, effort and health. I read this list out, the party committee chairman, after checking his own papers, told me what party disciplinary measures had been taken in their regard, and I made appropriate notations in the margins: reprimand, with a notation made in party records -- there are 2 of these; there were 5 reprimands with no notations, several individuals were discussed within primary party organizations, and 13 persons were not punished at all. This is for only 3 of a new series of handsome abutting buildings that give the impression of a blue-white ship sailing across the very center of the city. Just like a "Titanic" that has no fear of icebergs, inasmuch as you won't get anyone to abandon ship here by means of a law of any sort.

"As a rule, all the indicated apartments were given to citizens who had no requirement for improved living conditions and who were not on a waiting list, i.e. in crude violation of established procedures for allocating housing,"

states a report of an investigation, carried out last summer by a competent commission at the direction of the Moldavian CP Central Committee, for the purpose of determining how procedures for allocating housing are being followed in the city of Beltsy. "The practice of illegally assigning apartments continued even later. In 1982-83, more than 120 apartments in new buildings were assigned in violation of established procedures for allocating housing; in 1984, apartments were assigned illegally, for example, to B. I. Russu, a city party committee department chief, and to S. I. Rotar, a city party committee driver. These examples testify not simply to a formal failure to observe the Regulations Regarding Assignment of Residential Housing in the Moldavian SSR, but also to a crude flouting of established principles of social justice in the allocation of housing."

I obtained this report at the Moldavian CP Central Committee. The following figures can be used to supplement it: In October of last year, there were 650 damaged buildings in the city and continued residence in 55 of these represented a danger to people's lives but, of the latter, the first person on the soviet executive committee's list for a new apartment had been there since 1967; of families with many children, the first had been in line since 1979; of 144 Great Patriotic War veterans, the first had been in line since 1980, and of 59 first- and second-category work invalids, the first had been in line since 1971, although the law stipulates that they are to receive an apartment in no more than one year... If a table like this were to be compiled and presented to the readers for their judgment, it would attract much more attention than a national championship soccer game. And it would be evident, without any comment, that the first secretary of the city party committee, V. M. Iovv, had no moral right to reply so categorically to the editors regarding the article which they had published, that it was he himself, along with the republic's deputy prosecutor, S. Shumeyko, and others of their ilk, who "approached one of our most pressing social questions -- solution of the housing problem -- in a subjective and incompetent way" and, finally, that this case does not simply concern Koval, but also concerns the conditions of social injustice and illegality which have reigned in this city for many years and for which the city's managers now are not at all willing to admit their blame.

Within the Moldavian SSR, as in the whole country, a fierce struggle is being waged against everything that has caused our society to mark time, to display excessive enthusiasm in response to individual achievements, to pass off wishes as being reality, and to impudently try to hide in a shadow that which has already become patently obvious, even when morality is leniently defined. In a word, we are in the process of restructuring. But it would be naive to maintain that this is going on everywhere without the strong internal opposition of psychological inertia that has built up over the decades. Those involved in this restructuring must, first, identify this opposition and, second, overcome it.

In the Moldavian CP Central Committee's General Department, they showed me daily bundles of letters containing the resolutions of Central Committee secretaries "to look carefully into and report on" and "to prepare information on this question for the Buro", as well as articles clipped from republic newspapers, with headlines that, themselves, state that they don't look kindly

within the republic upon people whose words still do match definite results. In Kishinev alone, following last year's April CPSU Central Committee plenum, about 100 managers were removed from their positions for failing to cope with their duties or for having compromised themselves, and the former first secretary of one of the rayon party committees, I. Dodura, was even stripped of the title of Hero of Socialist Labor. Central Committee secretaries V. Smirnov and V. Semenov spoke frankly to me on this subject.

But, having walked only several blocks and finding myself in the office of Moldavian SSR First Deputy Procurator M. Plemedyal, it was exactly as if I had run into a stone wall. Mikhail Dmitriyevich persistently defended the positions taken by the procuracy following the newspaper's article. Everything that had been done with regard to Koval in the course of the preliminary investigation, he considers, was prompted by the operational situation -- his arrest, the search in the presence of such strange "witnesses", and his imprisonment for a month. Judging from everything, our understanding of this term -- operational situation -- is different from that of Mikhail Dmitriyevich. He perceived this situation to be a mandatory requirement to catch and punish the specific driver Koval, who had made an attempt to infringe on the letter of the law. I, however, saw in it a need to clarify the circumstances under which the entire alphabet of the law has been trampled upon for many years in the city of Beltsy, and why the very atmosphere there lends itself to a situation where one person commits a professional crime, and another becomes an accomplice to him. At the same time, I also did not swear to the inevitability an individual letter was involved.

In general, the conversation developed as follows: I talked to him about the illegal situation that had been created, one which they are now trying by all possible means to cover up; he spoke to me about Koval, as the sole criminal in the law's definition. The thread of the procuracy worker's conversation kept coming back to him and to the "two blank forms".

There was no use in continuing this conversation at the offices of the Moldavian SSR Procuracy. But, because they constantly attempted to return to the case of Koval, I decided to clarify with the Moldavian CP Central Committee, its view concerning an ethical question: was it, in general, proper for me to follow up on my own critical reporting. I presented my doubts to Central Committee secretaries V. Smirnov and V. Semenov and asked that they give me someone from the Central Committee apparatus to help out. They said that they had no reason not to trust a correspondent of SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA.

In the end, we decided that if I was presented with problems of any kind in Beltsy, I would telephone to Kishinev, and they would come to my help.

In the city of Beltsy, I spent three days studying the city party committee buro's decisions concerning the apartment question, making notes and comparing facts from the documents with those that I already had.

This made it possible to decipher certain common words from the reply of the first secretary of the city party committee, V. Iovv, to the newspaper's report. For example, "By August 1985, on the initiative of the city party

committee, a considerable amount of work had already been carried out in the city on uncovering and establishing shortcomings and violations of established procedures for allocating living area." And also, "It was not carried out in a sufficiently timely way."

Everything, in general, had been put to rights in something like the proper way, even with openness, inasmuch as the city newspaper KOMMUNIST published information from the city party committee buro, which presented rather eloquent data concerning the squandering of apartments, and even G. Botnar, at the time still city procurator, himself came out with a whole cycle of articles apropos restoring trampled justice. But, between the words that were spoken at the buro and those which were meant for the broad masses of the population, there nevertheless seemed to be small differences. The decisions of the buro are packed full of severe sanctions with regard to persons guilty of illegal allocation of apartments and to those who had received them, and facts, which cannot be avoided in any way now, are being made available for the information of the readers. And all this creates an impression of semi-frankness, of semi-openness. And it has developed in such a way that one truth exists for those who have been elected, i.e. for the members of the buro, and another for everyone else.

It is possible that V. Gutsulyak, the acting chief of the city department of internal affairs (GOVD), was guided by precisely this peculiar understanding of openness when he responded as follows to a letter from one of the more "pernicious" of the city's public-spirited citizens, Ye. Bedina: "...Therefore, we caution you concerning the responsibility for slander in accordance with Article 117 of the Moldavian SSR Criminal Code."

Also characteristic is the report from a session of the city soviet, which took place on 1 August of this year, although one of the decisions of the city party committee buro contains a statement that a session would be convened during the first quarter to discuss the question of measures to eliminate deficiencies in the allocation of apartments. In his address, the chief doctor at the psychiatric hospital, Deputy B. Boynyak, for example, spoke ardently about activating the human factor and about the desirability of every city resident planting three roses but, looking at my list, I see that he obtained his apartment illegally. And as a result, his words about showing constant concern for mankind ring somewhat hollow. It was exactly the same with the address given by the chairman of the city planning commission, K. Yavorskiy. No, breast-beating is not mandatory: they say, excuse me, that the people are orthodox but, even so, it is not mandatory to rush to the tribune to pronounce an invocation. By the way, K. Yavorskiy (he also is deputy chairman of the city soviet executive committee) is not listed among those who have been penalized in any way.

In this sense, the case of G. Botnar, the former city procurator and now the assistant procurator of Dnestrovskiy Rayon in the city of Kishinev, is somewhat more substantial. Not a single one of the city party committee buro's meetings devoted to the apartment question passed without note being made of his unsatisfactory work in overseeing observance of housing legislation, and it was not without basis that I asked him the question with which I began this article: was it true that the procuracy party organization

had reached the decision to issue him a severe reprimand, to be noted in his party record? One of the responsible workers of the city party committee, asking that I not identify him, had told me about this rather unusual event for the city. They had been having trouble with G. Botnar for several years, he added, and had asked the republic procurator, I. Cheban, for a replacement, but the candidates he proposed had led them to conclude that it would be easier to educate Botnar himself.

G. Botnar has left his responsibilities and I would not be surprised if he, in fact, now begins to drag me through the courts.

I assume that the first secretary of the city party committee, V. Iovv, who took the activities of the city procurator under his personal protection, has been, to put it mildly, somewhat worked up.

...And what has been the fate of P. Koval, whose crime tipped the scales of the city and republic Themis? He continues to find himself at the places chosen for him to serve his sentence. From what money he has left over, he sends home 30 rubles a month, his son, who is a student in technical school, receives a scholarship of 30 rubles a month and, in September, Larisa, his wife, received her final 35 rubles from state child-care funds. Consequently, until P. Koval returns, three members of his family will be living on 60 rubles. Koval was restored to his original cooperative waiting list but, at her place of work, they didn't want to put Larisa on an apartment waiting list, motivated, incidentally, by the fact that it still was not entirely clear whether this correspondent was right with his "Two Blank Forms"... So, it seems to have turned out that I brought harm to Koval with my article, and not benefit. And only when the second secretary of the party committee, V. Moryev, in my presence, phoned the city milk combine and said that, in any case, Koval's wife was not guilty of anything, did Larisa inform me the next day that she had been put on the list -- as number 123.

The deputy chairman of the city soviet executive committee, V. Pritula, who is now in charge of apartment affairs, is a new person in his position. He told me that they must now verify the rights of tenants and need to check personal accounts against authorizations to apartments for literally each of the apartments which has been received in the recent past -- several voluntary commissions are engaged in this. He also said that two large books, bearing an official stamp, will ready very soon: a journal to record information received from citizens concerning housing legislation violations -- all the reports will not fit into one. Further, he said that a public reception room is now in operation and that he is now visiting enterprises more frequently to ensure openness in the allocation of housing. Finally, he said that an automatic directory has been set up on the first floor of the House of Soviets, and now every citizen is able to watch as his place in line advances. And that the city soviet executive committee has been given 2 years to carry out all steps needed to put neglected apartment affairs in order...

I promised Comrade Pritula that I will return to the city of Beltsy in two years, and that, if they succeed in doing everything they plan, I will propose

to my editors that I do an essay on the heroic labors of the city soviet executive committee in this direction. Because, this is a difficult job -- to shovel out all the filth that has accumulated in the city over the years.

And driving away, I thought, even with a certain sadness, about the people who turned out to be incapable of doubting their own infallibility and who therefore reduced a most important social problem to an investigation of a single fact, and then conducted even this investigation on the level of a communal kitchen.

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CSO: 1800/391

REGIONAL ISSUES

RECKLESS USE OF OB, TRIBUTARIES DECREASES FISH SUPPLY

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 30 Jan 87 p 3

[Article by V. Bolshakov, corresponding member of USSR Academy of Sciences and director of the Institute of Plant and Animal Ecology of the Ural Science Center, USSR Academy of Sciences, and V. Bogdanov, senior scientist and candidate in biological sciences under the "Rivers Without a Future" rubric: "Gravel Quarrying...From the Spawning Ground of the Lake White Fish":]

[Text] Several articles have recently appeared in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA devoted to one of the most interesting regions of the control -- the northern area around the river Ob. We also found the article by S. Solovyev "Rivers Without a Future" of great interest. This article touched upon some very important problems concerning conservation of our northern rivers. These problems have become particularly pressing now, because of the intensive development of natural deposits of oil and gas in this region. It is very important for us to learn how to exploit riches of the North rationally so as to conserve its sensitive and already injured natural environment.

In his article, the author rightly notes that science must not remain a bystander when solutions are developed to important economic problems. One of these is the rational handling of the fishing industry. The river Ob is an extremely rich reservoir, which supplies a catch of approximately 10,000 tons of muksun, pelyad, ryapuska, siga-pyzhik, omul, and tugun, which makes up 40-50 percent of the total USSR catch of siga [lake white fish, Coregonus; freshwater fish of salmon family].

What is responsible for this abundance of lake white fish in the river Ob? It turns out that its basin represents a wonderful balance of the various environmental conditions required for the periods of fattening and reproduction. The spawning of the semi-anadromous lake white fish requires clean water, pebble river beds, and a fast current. Such conditions exist in the Ural tributaries -- the North Sosva, Synya, Voykar, Sob, Kharbey, and Langottegan. However, recently the contribution of certain of these tributaries to the breeding of supplies of white fish has diminished. We would like to discuss the river Sob in some detail, since it is a spawning ground for lake white fish as well as for burbot.

At the same time the Sob is the only river among the Ural tributaries of the Ob in which the lake white fish reproduce which has been subject to industrial pollution. The Kharpskii Ferroconcrete Combine pollutes the river with industrial sewage and petroleum products. This leads not only to loss of roe, but also to loss of lake white fish fry during the period when they hatch and scatter.

But this is not all there is to the misfortune of the Sob. To meet the needs of the city Labytnangi they take water from its tributary, the river Khanmey. In addition the usage of water during the last five-year plan increased considerably in connection with the expansion of the city and the construction of the Yamalskiy Railroad.

Moreover, beginning in 1984 they began to quarry the sand-gravel mixture from the Sob river bed. They are planning to increase the amount quarried to 12 million tons of gravel per year. The development of this deposit has turned out to be very beneficial to the Ob-Irtyshskiy shipping line since the loading of gravel onto the barge must occur right where it is quarried. To allow the tugboats passage, the bed of the river was deepened beginning at the river mouth. Toward the end of the summer of 1986, gravel was being quarried on the lower spawning grounds, leading to a decrease in the number of young tugun. The elimination of the system of alternating winter hollow and shoals in the lower reaches of the river has caused the fish to asphyxiate up river. In the rayon of Lor-Loch -- Nara Pola, the river is freezing entirely, preventing the fish from escaping from the area where they will suffocate.

Irrational management of fishing has also had its effects on the reproduction of the fish. Along with net and seine fishing in the summer and autumn, the fisherman of the Katravoskiy Fish Sector catch white fish during the spawning migration in their burbot traps. After the waters freeze up (October), the catch in the traps are two-thirds lake white fish (mainly chir) and only one-third burbot. The poaching of spawning chir, causes major losses.

We believe that gravel quarrying must be banned in the region of the spawning grounds of lake white fish (no higher than the Nara-Pol hut). But if we approach this rigorously, then we must note that any changes at all to the beds of rivers serving as spawning grounds are undesirable. To compensate for the losses it has caused, the Ob-Irtyshskiy shipping line should build a fish farming base on the Sob river to collect roe of the chir and siga-pyzhyan.

Moreover, the harmful effects of the operations of the Kharpskiy Ferroconcrete Combine must be minimized and a major concrete dam should be built on the Khanmey River to create a reservoir of water for the needs of Labytnangov. Only if its primary ecosystem is conserved will fish continue to breed and winter on the Sob River.

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CSO:1800/323

REGIONAL ISSUES

FILM DETAILS EXTENT OF AZOV SEA POLLUTION

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jan 87 p 6

[Article by M. Kryukov, PRAVDA correspondent: "This Documentary Film Argues: It Is Time To Save the Sea"]

[Text] Rostov-na-Donu. This documentary film was made for Rostov television. It runs for 50 minutes. And for that entire time it keeps us in suspense. Although its title is neutral, "The Azov Sea," this film is not concerned with the beauties of the sea; but rather with the calamity that has befallen it.

The first frames sketch the past of the Azov Sea. For many centuries the area around the Sea was an historic crossroads. It was no accident that Peter I established a fort on the Taganrog Promontory 5 years before the founding of St. Petersburg.

Many have been attracted by this sea. It is the shallowest of the seas -- only 8 meters deep. The two rivers, the Don and the Kuban, which feed it renew its waters completely every 8 years. During the powerful spring floods, the area of its spawning ground exceeds that of the sea itself by 150%. Nowhere else can such spawning conditions be found. In addition, this is the least salty of the seas.

The Azov Sea is also the most productive sea on our planet. Up to 80 kilograms of fish are caught for every hectare of water surface area, 6 times the productivity of the the Caspian Sea, and almost 25 that of the Black Sea. The old film clips used in this film give an impression of this richness. What fishing they had here comparatively recently, no more than 50 years ago. We see people salting black caviar in big barrels. There was so much roe that, if people complained of anything then, it wasn't lack of sturgeon, but rather the shortage of salt.

But that's not all. The film clips tell the story of the famous Don and Kuban black earth. The narrator puts it well: this sea which produced an unsurpassed yield of fish is surrounded by land unequalled for agricultural fertility.

Not that many years have passed since then. The Gimlyanskiy Water Development Project was built. Even now stories of the people's triumph in building this project are recounted with pride. Cities are growing like wildfire.

However, it turns out that nothing is without cost. And it is the Azov Sea which has had to pay. We are shown a series of heartrending shots of its slow degeneration, if this term can be applied to a sea. A mere 20 years have passed since the building of the Gimlyanskiy Water Development Project, and the following announcement has appeared in the Rostov papers: "Because of the increasing shallowness of the Don River, motor ships on the Moscow-Rostov route will no longer depart from the Volgodonsk city port."

How can this be? Volgo-Don was built especially for shipping and now, suddenly, there isn't enough water. The film convincingly demonstrates that when man began intensive development of this land of plenty, he neglected many factors and destroyed the ecological equilibrium. It is sufficient to say that the Azov Sea is no longer receiving almost a third of its rivers' waters. This effect is equivalent to what would occur if the Kuban dried up completely and the sea was deprived of her waters. And do we have to state explicitly that the supply of fish has declined sharply?

The movie camera bears witness to the enormous quantity of roe which is washed up on the shore and dries out in the silt. Man is doing what he can to try to soften the blow. Fish are raised in man-made hatcheries and then released in the sea. Hoists are constructed to toss the fish back at the sites of their former spawning places. But, as the narrator rightly points out, this is analogous, to having a single elevator in a large city. It took 2 million years for the ecological system of the sea to develop. Yet a mere handful of decades have been enough to undermine this ecology.

The makers of the film have attempted to answer the question of what happened to the sea honestly.

First they explain the nature of the changes which have occurred in the sea itself. The fact that the rivers have become more shallow has put it on a starvation diet. And what next? The sea was "attacked" by salty waters from the Black Sea. And these salty waters brought with them some unexpected guests. The screen shows us the giant bodies of jellyfish. Jellyfish were never before found in the Azov Sea, which is far more "nourishing" than the Black Sea. The jellyfish began to multiply rapidly and increase in size. This has turned out to be a major calamity for the sea. The rivers flowing into the sea, could have done a lot to clean it out, but they themselves are already carrying death for the fish. Man takes clean water out of the rivers, but what does he put back into them?

Again the screen shows us the answer: dirty streams gushing out of huge pipes. The waste dumps from the Zhdanovkiy Metallurgic Combine no longer fit on the shore and are moving into the sea.

A mathematical model of the Azov Sea developed by scientists at the North Caucasus Scientific Center, for which they were awarded the USSR State Prize,

helps us to understand the present disaster. I recall a conversation with one of the creators of this model, I. Vorovich, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and chairman of the lead council on problems of the Azov Sea. Explaining the content of the diagrams hanging on his wall, he said, "A model is a research tool. A model can be used to predict the future of the sea, and of each of its areas. But it is people who have put the ideas in it and it is they who must search for ways to save the sea."

The model also defined the point of no return with regard to the extent we can increase our irresponsible economic exploitation on the sea's shores. This point is not all that far off. Like a red light it cries: time to stop. We must save the sea. The sooner, the better. It is getting late.

As early as 16 January 1976, a government decree was passed, which stipulated that by 1985 the dumping of untreated industrial wastes into the Black and Azov Sea basins would cease completely. This was the goal. And much was done. Slowly, things did change for the better. But very slowly. How difficult it is to do away with preconceived ideas. One of these is that "cleaning up would be too expensive." But the consequences of not cleaning up would be infinitely more expensive. "There's a great deal of water, there will be enough for everyone." No, there won't. We cannot, for example, irresponsibly continue to expand the irrigation network nor to use it without thought of the consequences. The fertility of the soil will drop, and marshland will take over. We can't continue to vandalize the small rivers. We cannot rely exclusively on toxic chemicals in the war against weeds in rice-growing -- herbicides also contaminate the sea. We cannot place less than first priority on construction of anti-pollution facilities. There is much that we must not do if we want the seas and rivers to live so that our children and grandchildren inherit them healthy, and not diseased.

The film "The Azov Sea" was directed by Yu. Kalugin. The script was written by Yu. Dombrovskiy, a doctor of physical and mathematical sciences, and F. Surkov, candidate in physical and mathematical sciences, who also serve as narrators. The camera man was S. Ilarionov.

The creators of the film have not been able to answer all the questions. And, indeed, it would be impossible to exhaust the subject with a single film. They have done the most important thing -- this film will leave no one indifferent.

It would be impossible not to be reminded of the speech made by Mikhail Sholokhov at the 23rd Party Congress, "This, comrades, is an issue of great personal significance to me. Our gentle Don is perishing. Every year, the experts tell us, industrial enterprises dump up to 7 million cubic meters of sewage into it. There may be no tomorrow for the Azov Sea.."

Please note that the great writer called the fate of the river and the sea an issue of "great personal significance" for him. So it should be for each of us.

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